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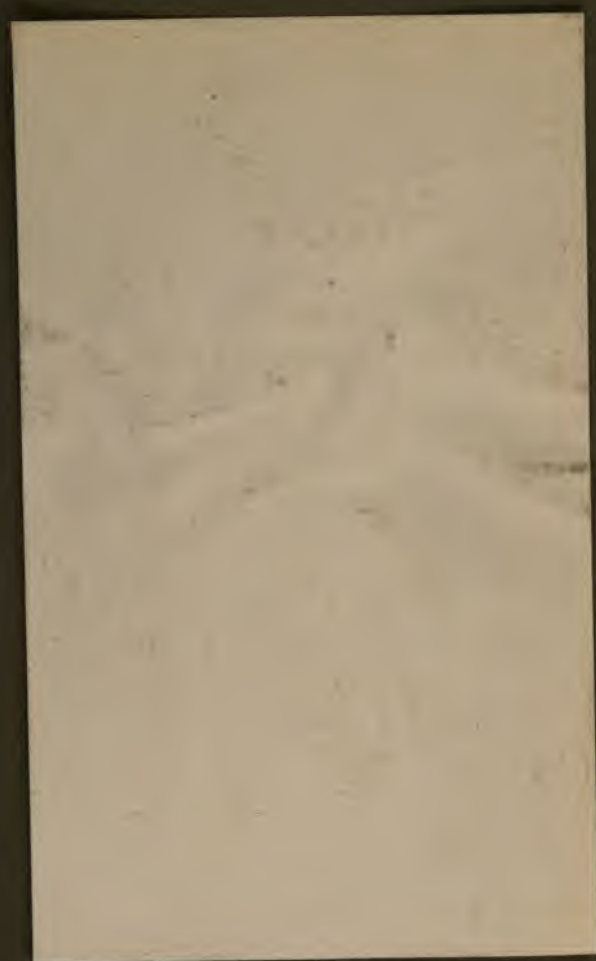
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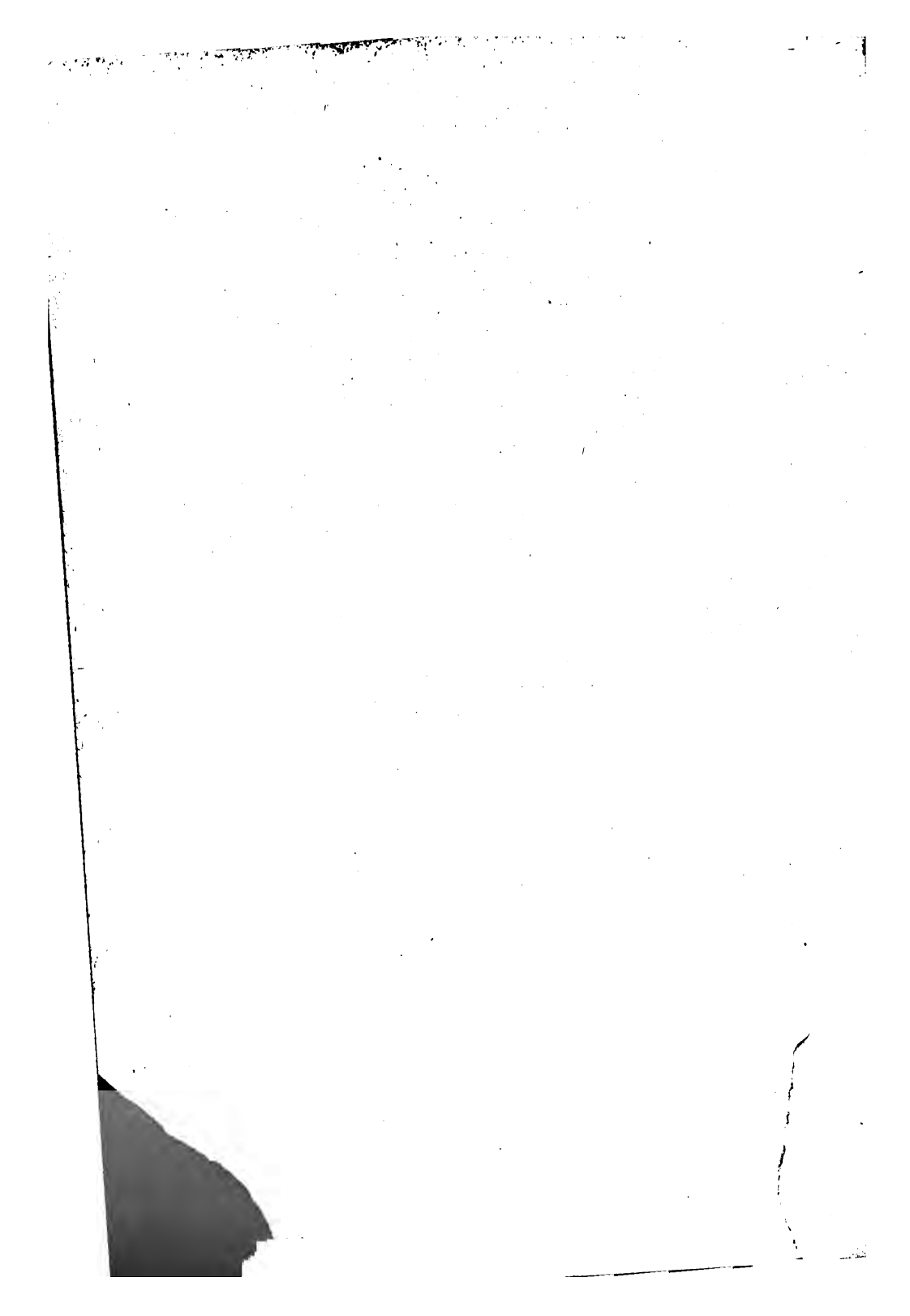
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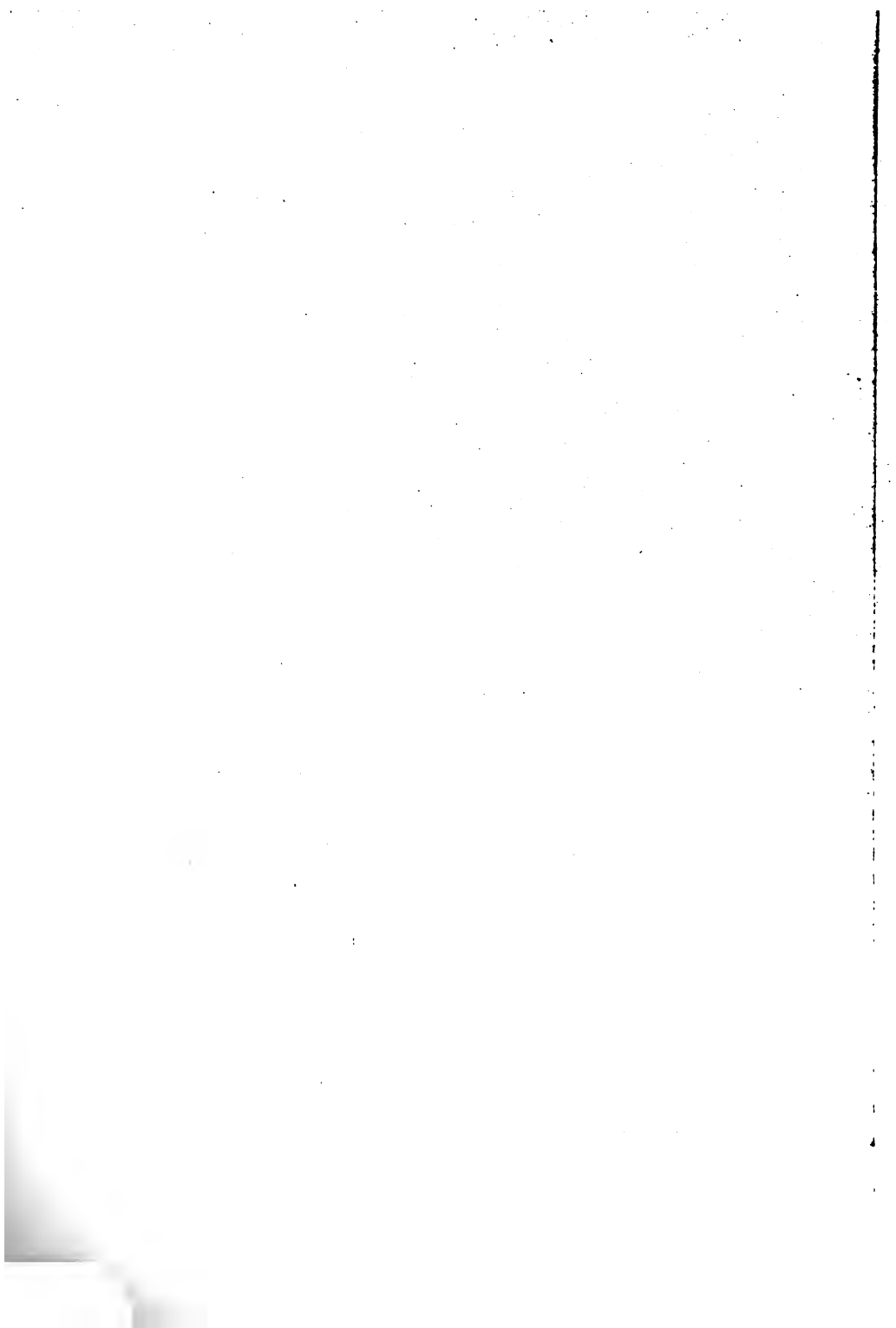








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**HISTORY**  
**OF THE**  
**NEWSPAPERS**

**OF**  
**BEAVER COUNTY,**  
**PENNSYLVANIA.**

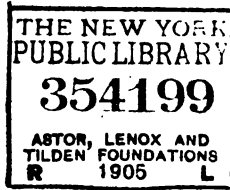
**BY**  
**FRANCIS S. READER,**

**AUTHOR OF THE LIFE OF MOODY AND SANKEY;  
HISTORY OF 5TH W. VA. CAVALRY; HISTORY  
OF NEW BRIGHTON, PA.; SOME  
PIONEERS OF WASHINGTON  
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.**

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## PREFACE.

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In writing a history of the newspapers of Beaver County, the author had two objects in view, first to get a connected history of each paper as to time and name, and second to place on record a sketch and portrait of every writer and printer who attained any prominence in the work, in any line he pursued.

The former it is believed has been accomplished with very few exceptions. Every public document bearing on the subject, and copies of newspapers that could be found, were carefully examined, and individuals conversant with any facts were seen or written to, and the facts thus secured were used, so that as a matter of mere historical sequence, the subject seems to be exhausted.

The second object has been but partially carried out, much to the writer's disappointment, and to the regret no doubt of the readers of the book. In the case of many of the early actors, a full sketch was not obtainable, and portraits were not to be had; but in the last half century or more there are many of whom pen pictures and portraits should be had, which could not be secured. Men yet living, in many cases, were the hardest to get. Weeks of time, and more weeks of labor, have been spent to reach this end, but have failed, so the work is sent forth incomplete in this respect. If it could have been

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made more complete, the value of the work would be greatly enhanced, yet the more prominent persons, with a very few exceptions, are given.

This history has been prepared as a tribute to the author's journalistic associates, editors, publishers and printers. The search for material, and the writing and putting it in shape for the printer, is the author's contribution, for which no compensation would be accepted. The portraits have been inserted at the cost of securing half tones, without profit to the author, and the only source of income to pay for the mechanical work, is the sale of the book to those who may have a curiosity to see it, or a desire to own it for its historic value.

The author's thanks are due to every one who helped in any way in preparing the book for publication, whose names are cherished in the mind of the writer, if they do not appear here.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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Beaver County, Pennsylvania, was erected March 12, 1800, and the county was organized for judicial purposes April 2, 1803, the first court being held February 6, 1804, in the house of Abner Lacock on Third street, with Hon. Jesse Moore judge. Jonathan Coulter, Joseph Hemp-hill and Denny McClure were designated to erect the necessary public buildings, and Beavertown was selected as the county seat, under the Act of Assembly forming the county. Two of the reserved squares were selected as the locations for the public buildings. The first building was the jail, the second story of which was used for the Court room until 1810, during which year the first Court house was completed, on the same lot as the present one, but east toward the old jail. It was a one story structure to which an eastern wing was added in 1840, and a western wing in 1848, for use of public officials and to preserve the records. The present jail was built in 1858-9.

With the advent of the Courts and the business of the county officials, came the necessity for advertising such public acts as the law required. There was then no paper in the county, and legal advertisements were placed in Pittsburg papers; and indeed after the establishment of a Beaver county paper, important legal

advertisements were required to be published in the paper at Washington, Pa., and the Pittsburg papers, from which two counties Beaver county was formed. The politicians depended mainly on the Pittsburg papers for a hearing and for access to the newspaper reading public.

A paper of that city which had most to do with Beaver county, was the "Commonwealth," started in Pittsburg Wednesday morning July 24, 1805. It was printed and published every Wednesday morning by Ephraim Pentland. Mr. Pentland was the son-in-law of Abner Lacock of Beaver, was a Pittsburg lawyer, and was admitted to the Beaver County Courts April 11, 1831. He was city recorder of Pittsburg for a number of years, but was best known in those days in his stormy career as a newspaper editor.

Mr. Lacock was a frequent, indeed almost a regular contributor to the columns of the "Commonwealth." In the first issue of the paper, an editorial reference is made to a letter from Lancaster, Pa., to John Israel, register and recorder of Washington county, and editor of the "Tree of Liberty," no doubt the same Israel who was arraigned in the columns of the "Commonwealth," in its second number. In that number Mr. Lacock had an article two and one-fourth columns in length, defending his course in the legislature from the attacks of an "apostate printer." This was supplemented by an editorial commenting on the letter to Israel, from which the following is taken: "There certainly can be but one sentiment of disapprobation with all parties, towards the editor who wilfully mutilates and disfigures what is committed to his charge for publication. Israel knew Mr. Lacock's letter was unanswerable, and forsooth undertook to destroy the effect of his language by altering the spelling and punctuation. Oh, meanness unparalleled."

This "Tree of Liberty" is spoken of at later times, and in the "Minerva" of Beaver, October 8, 1808, a reply was made to articles that appeared in the "Tree of Liberty," which has led some to think that it was a Beaver county paper published prior to the "Minerva," but it is clearly established that it was a Pittsburg paper and was never published in this county. Mr. Israel sold the "Tree of Liberty" in December 1805. In January 1807, Hon. Walter Forward was editor of the paper, and he was Secretary of the U. S. Treasury in 1841-43.

In the issue of the "Commonwealth" August 7, 1805, a report is given of a meeting in Beaver county, in which it is said that a 'number of Democratic Republicans convened on the banks of the Beaver creek \* \* \* in order to celebrate the anniversary of our independence,' with the usual toasts. One of the toasts was, "The Tree whose fruit is blasted, may it soon be despoiled of its branches, and the axe of the Commonwealth at its root." In the issue of the same paper of September 28, 1805, there appeared a call to the Republicans of Beaver county on the issues at stake in the approaching election. Mr. Lacock had a number of articles in the paper on political questions, and many other Beaver county articles appeared frequently.

Abner Lacock was born near Alexandria, Va., July 9, 1770, came to Beaver county in 1796, and on the 19th of September of that year, was appointed by Governor Thomas Mifflin Justice of the Peace for Pitt township, Allegheny county, afterward made a part of Beaver county. He was elected to the legislature in 1801; was appointed Associate Judge in 1803, and served in the first court held in his house in 1804, resigning to return to the legislature, where he served until elected to the State Senate in 1808; was elected to Congress in 1810, and to the United States Senate in 1813, serving six years, the first U. S. Senator from Beaver county. He was a

strong friend of Presidents Madison and Monroe, but intensely disliked Andrew Jackson. He died April 12, 1837.

By act of the legislature September 28, 1791, Governor Thomas Mifflin was authorized to have surveyed, near the mouth of the Beaver river, on or near where the old French town stood, two hundred acres of land in town lots, and also one thousand acres adjoining and on the upper side thereof, as nearly square as might be, in outlots of not less than five nor more than ten acres each. The survey of the land was made by Daniel Leet in November 1792. Fort McIntosh was established here in 1778, and prior to that time about twenty years, there was a town built by the French for the use of certain Indian tribes. By the Act of March 12, 1800, establishing the county of Beaver, the town was designated and fixed as the county seat. Then the beautiful plateau on which the town was built, was covered with a dense growth of shrubs and saplings. The town was regularly incorporated March 29, 1802, and entered upon its legal existence.



## CHAPTER I.

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### THE EARLY PAPERS OF BEAVER.

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The newspapers published in Beaver before the "Western Argus," were included in the period from November 4, 1807 to September 1, 1818. They were influential in their day, and supplied a want that was felt by all classes of people, the politicians, the tradesmen, the office holders, and the humbler workers who were the backbone of the rapidly growing population.

These papers changed from hand to hand, or in name, with great rapidity, doubtless under the stress of adverse circumstances, and the lack of suitable patronage, so that there was no permanency until eleven years after the first one began its existence. Materials were necessarily high and subscribers and advertisers few, and the comparative sparseness of the population, made the official and legal printing a small item. Labor was cheap, and the purchasing power of the people was poor, and subscribers paid so little in cash, that the burden of securing enough to pay the expenses of the printer, was a heavy one and could not be borne long.

It must be borne in mind that at this time there was but a small population in the county, not larger than New Brighton at present; that the most thrifty town in the county, Fallston, was a mere hamlet with a flouring

and saw mill; Beaver Falls, then Brighton, had a few lots laid out on the Walnut bottoms, but gave no promise of the present growth and prosperity; New Brighton had not even a name and about its only distinction was Wolf's flouring mill near the present Tenth street bridge; Sharon, now Bridgewater, had been the scene of Burr's operations in the building of boats; and everywhere in the valley of the Beaver and along the banks of the Ohio, was a dense wilderness, forests that had never been fully penetrated, and nothing but the quiet, and stillness and loneliness of the almost unbroken wilds that but a few years before had been the haunts of the Indians. None of the comforts of modern life were to be had, communication with the great outside world was a question of months, and the solitude and monotony of the pioneer life, was scarcely conducive to a condition where a newspaper would find ready acceptance, and receive such support as to enable it to live.

What the equipment of these early papers was, is known only in part, but it was of necessity simple and crude. The printer who laboriously picked the separate pieces from his case of type, and found it impossible to put in type even the limited amount of copy of the period, would have regarded it an evidence of insanity for any one to predict the wonderful type setting or type casting machines of the present. The presses of that early day were typical only of the magnificent ones of today. The first press then used in the county, was probably the Ramage press, which printed one page at a time, with but very slow speed and moderate mechanical skill. This was followed by the Franklin press, somewhat of an improvement, which in later years was superseded by the Washington hand press, well known to many printers yet living. The type was fairly good and looked tolerably well, and the paper used was coarse in texture and poor in appearance, but it has stood well the



ravages of time, the first of the papers yet in existence being in a good state of preservation.

The papers of this period are believed to be the same in mechanical equipment, and each the regular successor of the preceding one; being the same in size and general make up, type the same generally, but changed in name of paper and editor, combining in the course of eleven years in making the "Western Argus." The latter is the legitimate successor of the "Minerva" through the ups and downs of the enterprising gentlemen who attempted to fill the journalistic want of the day, and all failed except the Logans, who passed the "Argus" on its way to the Henrys, who kept the name given the paper in 1818. Mr. Berry named his paper the "Minerva;" Mr. White who followed him changed it to the "Western Cabinet;" and when he laid down the burden, the Logans took it up but dropped the name and called it the "Crisis;" and after five years of hard work, disappointment and partial success only, they changed the name to the "Western Argus," the name never lost except for a few weeks, in the eighty-seven years that have followed; and when they tired of the responsibility, James Logan in 1825 transferred the paper to Thomas Henry, who kept the name intact.

The modern journalist would hardly submit to such conditions, and none but the newspaper pioneers of the ever receding west, during the century that has just closed, have known the real hardships, genuine privations, and depths of discouragement, that the early newspaper men of the county experienced. And these men who started papers were not ignorant upstarts, who led by the hope of political reward ventured beyond their literary depths, but in every case were men of intellectual strength and culture, whose virile writings compare favorably with the best of the present day, with all our

advantages. Like the pioneers in all departments of life, they were equipped for their work, but the conditions were not such as to command success.

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### THE MINERVA.

---

The first paper in Beaver county of which there is any record, or any copy known to be in existence, was the "Minerva," 'published in the town of Beaver every Saturday by John Berry at two dollars per year, and when sent by post, the postage of fifty cents per year to be added.' It was started at an eventful period, in the latter part of President Jefferson's administration, in the height of his popularity; and in the closing year of Governor Thomas McKean's administration in Pennsylvania, the independent Democrat, who had defeated Simon Snyder Democrat in 1805 by over 5,000 votes in the state.

It was devoted to the Republican party and consequently gave a hearty support to President Jefferson. While not much space was given to editorials, there was enough to outline its policy and show the aggressive character of its utterances. Its columns in its second year, showed a controversy with the "Tree of Liberty," a sheet that seemed to be specially virulent in its attacks on the leaders of the Republican party in the west. The character of that paper is seen in the introduction to this work, and its attacks on the public men of the Jefferson

party were met with spirit. The writing as shown in the few copies of the "Minerva" in existence, is of a high character, and evidences ability and candor, with literary excellence.

The "Minerva" was a small sheet, the pages about ten by seventeen inches, four columns to the page, and four pages in all. In the issue of the paper December 19, 1808, there appears at the end of the last column the signature: "Beavertown, Pa., printed by Joseph Israel." It is not stated who he was, but probably the practical printer, who assisted John Berry the editor.

Number one, Volume one, of the "Minerva" is dated Wednesday November 4, 1807. The head line is evidently a wood cut, near the centre of which is a representation of the goddess whose name it bears, somewhat crude, wearing her plumed helmet on her head. On the left of the figure is the word "The," and on the right "Minerva," the letters sloping to the left and about one inch in height. Underneath the head line is the motto, taken from Cowper, and reads:—"This folio of four pages \* \* \* \* happy work! what is it but a map of busy life, its fluctuations and its vast concerns." The date line is Volume 1 Number 1, Wednesday November 4, 1807. One third of the first column is taken up with the terms of subscription and the card, "Printing—pamphlets, hand bills, cards and all kinds of blanks, neatly and accurately executed at this office." The remainder of the page consists of "European affairs," the latest intelligence of which is given as August 15. The countries of Europe were all noticed in the news thus printed. On the second page were more European news of the date of September 7, and the remainder of this page was filled with news from Philadelphia and other places in America, as late as October 19.

On the third page is this paragraph: "In order to lay before the public as soon as possible the first number

of the 'Minerva,' we have published it on Wednesday. Saturday will henceforth be the day of publication." At the head of this page is the editorial salutatory, which reads as follows: "We this day present to the public the first number of the 'Minerva.' In doing this, it is perhaps necessary to state the principles upon which it will be conducted. The 'Minerva' shall be strictly impartial, free from the influence of party and political prejudice. Convinced that when correctly informed, the people cannot fail of judging correctly, the editor will give a faithful detail of passing events, leaving them to form their own conclusions. He will not assume the office of Dictator. He does not mean, however, to exclude from his paper political discussion. On the contrary it is invited. Believing that the only way to come at the truth is to hear the arguments advanced on all sides, he will gladly receive and cheerfully publish political essays from either party, when such essay is written with moderation and couched in respectful language. But he never will consent that the pages of the 'Minerva' should become the channel through which partizans may give vent to their gall. Its columns shall be occasionally devoted to amuse as well as instruct his readers. With respect to his own opinions, he has no hesitation in declaring them Republican; that he is warmly attached to the constitution of the State and of the Union. Such, briefly stated, are the principles upon which the 'Minerva' will be conducted; the editor trusts they will be approved of by an enlightened public. J. Berry. Minerva office, 4th November 1807."

The third page contains the proclamation of Governor Thomas McKean, dated at Lancaster October 3, 1807, offering a reward of five hundred dollars for the arrest and conviction of the person who murdered James Hamilton, September 23 last past, said Hamilton having accompanied William B. Irish deputy marshal in the dis-

trict of Pennsylvania, George Holdship Esq., and Ennion Williams agent of the Pennsylvania Population Company, to dispossess William Foulkes. The advertisements were all on this page. The printer of the paper advertised a lot of ground in the town of Mercer. William Gillespie boot and shoemaker, informs his friends that he still continues to carry on his business in Third street, opposite Mr. Hemphill's tavern. David Johnson register of the county has a notice. Arnold Eichbaum of Pittsburg, advertises turning in all its branches, oval and round, in ivory, wood or metal, and Zadok Cramer of the same city, advertises a number of books just published. Coulter, Bever and Bowman, announce that they have commenced building a paper mill at the mouth of Little Beaver, near Georgetown, and hope to complete it in the course of the winter.

The fourth page is filled with poetry and miscellaneous reading.

The "Minerva" was in existence as late as January 9, 1811, and doubtless until succeeded by the "Western Cabinet." In 1810 Mr. Berry presented a claim to the Beaver council as follows: "For publishing three ordinances, 3 squares, \$3.00; proposals for building a market house, one square, \$1.00, total \$4.00." January 9, 1811, it was endorsed—"Held under advisement." John Berry was a member of Beaver council in 1808-09, and while no doubt a man of influence and standing, nothing is now known of him personally; but the fact that he published the paper for four years, shows that he was a man of energy and strength of will, combined with intelligence.

## THE WESTERN CABINET.

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The "Western Cabinet" was started September 30, 1811, "printed and published by Joseph W. White," at Beavertown, Pa. It was issued every Saturday at \$2.00 per year, was the same size sheet as the "Minerva," and practically the same in style and appearance. Everything goes to show that it was the immediate successor of the "Minerva," with a change of name. Its motto was: "The basis of our political system is the right of the people to make and to alter the constitution of Government.—Washington."

Its life was a brief one, less than two years until its successor was begun, but it was in the midst of the discussions, and excitement, attending the beginning of the War of 1812 with Great Britain, and had full opportunity to show its mettle. It was published during the last two years of President Madison's first administration, when events were rapidly occurring that resulted in the second victory over the Mother Country, and established beyond doubt the fact that the United States was one of the strong nations of the civilized world.

Mr. White was a member of Beaver council in 1808, and was a man of strength intellectually and in energy of character.

## THE CRISIS.

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The "Crisis" was started May 22, 1813, by J. & A. Logan. It was on a sheet the same size as the "Minerva," and same general style. Displayed in its columns was this: "Printed every Saturday morning at their printing office Centre avenue, adjoining the Court House." The last number of this paper that the writer has seen, was dated April 30, 1814, without the name of the publisher. It contained the receipts and expenditures of the county for 1813, amounting to \$4,877.38. Among the other items of expense was one of \$30, paid to Joseph W. White for publishing the receipts and expenditures, doubtless for 1812, showing that the "Western Cabinet" was in existence as late as February or March 1813. The "Crisis" was still published December 25, 1813, by J. & A. Logan, a copy of that date being in existence. November 10, 1815, Beaver council passed an ordinance, "Authorizing borough notes in the aggregate of five hundred dollars, in denominations of 6 1-4, 12 1-2, 25 and 50 cents each, to be signed by the treasurer and placed in the hands of the burgess to be placed on the market. The treasurer to procure paper and have the notes struck by the editor of the 'Beaver Crisis.'" The name of the editor is not given, but the transaction shows that a paper by the name of the "Crisis" existed at that date.

## THE BEAVER GAZETTE.

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The "Beaver Gazette" was started June 8, 1813, being the same size as the "Crisis," and in appearance much the same. It was issued every Saturday at two dollars per year. Its motto was: "Free but not Licentious." It seems to have been the immediate predecessor of the "Western Argus."

A copy of the paper is in existence dated Saturday April 4, 1818, of which the publisher was A. Logan, with the same motto. In this issue Mr. Logan has the following: "Reports are in circulation that we will not give space in our paper to the communications of the party in opposition. This report is unfounded and we wish to let our readers hear all the arguments that can be brought forward on both sides of the great political question, which has not only rendered us political enemies, but even destroyed the blessings of social life." It is evident that politics were at fever heat then, though the country was in the era of peace and quiet under the administration of President Monroe.

Mr. Logan was a prominent man in the county, and was clerk of Beaver council in 1816. He was appointed postmaster of Beaver April 24, 1832, and served until 1838, when he moved to Iowa where he died.



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THE CRISIS AND BEAVER GAZETTE.

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The "Crisis and Beaver Gazette" was started June 10, 1818. It has been claimed by some that this paper was a consolidation of the "Crisis" and the "Beaver Gazette," but the fact that both of these papers were being published two or more years later than this time, seems to render that theory untenable. All three papers were published by one or both of the Logan brothers, and it is possible that the names were applied variously at different times, as it suited them, without regard to continuity of name. Three copies of the "Crisis and Beaver Gazette" are known to be in existence, one dated September 30, 1815, Volume 3 No. 17, and the last one April 18, 1816, Volume 3 No. 45, all bearing the name of A. Logan as publisher. The last one had the same motto as the "Beaver Gazette," "Free but not Licentious."

When James Logan on September 1, 1818, began the publication of the "Western Argus," the successor of these three papers, he announced in his salutatory that he "sent on the first number (of the 'Western Argus') to the patrons of the 'Beaver Gazette,'" giving as a reason that he had not had time to prepare a new list for the new paper. This would show that the "Beaver Gazette" was the paper then in existence, and the immediate predecessor of the "Western Argus," and not the "Crisis and Beaver Gazette." The last issue of the latter known to be in existence is dated April 18, 1816, while the last issue of the "Beaver Gazette" yet in existence, was dated April 4, 1818.

James Logan was one of the prominent and assertive men of his day, and was a foeman worthy the steel of any of his militant editorial contemporaries. He was a member of Beaver council from 1815 for twelve years at various times, the last year in 1833, and was clerk of council two years. He was Justice of the Peace of district No. 3, December 15, 1814; Clerk of Courts of the county 1824-25; Prothonotary 1830-36; and trustee of Beaver Academy, and secretary of the board, for 1833-35-43-45.

These three papers came into existence during the last administration of President Madison and extended into the first administration of President Monroe, thus being published when the dominant political sentiment was Republican, the Federalist party having largely disappeared. In the same period was fought to a successful conclusion the second war with Great Britain. The time was propitious for a journal of stability, the county having made considerable advancement in population, manufactures, commercial enterprises, and in agriculture, and the foundations of such a journal were laid by James Logan when on Tuesday September 1, 1818, he brought into existence the "Western Argus."



## CHAPTER II.

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### EARLY DEMOCRATIC PAPERS.

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The journalistic ventures that led from the "Minerva" in 1807 to the "Western Argus" of 1818, when a permanent name, paper and policy were established, were similarly followed in the establishing of a Democratic journal. From the "Republican" of the Logans in 1826, came eventually the "Western Star" of 1843, which became measureably permanent in name, and certainly so in politics. It was a long and hard struggle, blasting the hopes of many good men, and depleting the purses of all who had anything to do with them in a practical way. Some of the brightest men of the county took part in this evolution of a Democratic paper, but all came to grief, and even in the "Western Star" many long years elapsed before permanency was in view, and then only after many strong men and able writers had failed in their efforts. There were some bright minds in the roll of the editors of these papers, whose editorials were as merciless as they were able and brilliant. It would be very interesting, as well as of historic value, to know more of the life work and characteristics of all these Democratic editors, but we will have to content ourselves with what is given in these pages, as it is all that could be obtained after the most careful inquiry and search.

The first of these papers, the "Republican," came into existence in the period when Andrew Jackson was one of the most prominent figures in the country, and when the words Democratic and Republican were getting in opposition as names of two separate and widely distinct political parties, the former name to last through the century and beyond, and the latter to become the Whig party in 1836, to be replaced in 1856 by the Republican party, thus restoring the names that existed soon after the Logan brothers started their new newspaper venture. In State politics, in the same early period, the contest for Governor was between the Democratic and the Anti-Masons, the Federal party dropping out of the race after the defeat of the Federalist candidate for Governor in 1826.

These were hot political times, and the contests were as vigorous and unrelenting, as the rival political papers were ablaze with fiery rhetoric, and denunciation of each other. Plain words were used to express the thoughts of the editor, and they never failed to hit the mark with their heavy editorial artillery, or throw confusion into the ranks of the enemy by their pungent and telling ridicule. The way was open for a long campaign of editorial combat, and the Logans entered the field well equipped for the fray. The Henrys on the other side, were as vigilant and as well prepared as their opponents, and the weekly broadsides were looked for eagerly by the readers of the papers, and there was no quarter shown or asked, but the fight was to the finish.

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**BEAVER REPUBLICAN.**

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The "Beaver Republican" seems to have been the first Democratic paper published in the county, and began its existence in June 1826. It was printed in the second story of the McCreery & Mitchell brick building on Main street, by Logan & English, and was a four page five column sheet. The earliest number now known to be in existence is dated June 19, 1828. The publishers then were A. & J. Logan. The latter transferred the "Western Argus" to Thomas Henry, and a spirited controversy occurred between the "Argus" and the "Republican," the former charging the latter with having promised to keep out of the newspaper business when James Logan sold the "Argus" to Mr. Henry in 1825.

The "Republican" in the issue of June 19, had the following editorial in part: "A system of oppugnance and hostility to the establishment of the 'Beaver Republican' has been manifested by a certain combination ever since its commencement. It was intended to crush the establishment by destroying the character of its editors. Accordingly it was widely circulated that 'no faith, no confidence' ought to be attached to those obnoxious editors, as the senior had bound himself in an obligation never to be concerned in any printing establishment in the county of Beaver, and the junior was beneath notice," consequently they were unworthy of support. The "Republican" reviewed the controversy on the obligation referred to, in a two column editorial, concluding with this, written evidently by James Logan: "But why commence a public attack on my character in the

'Argus?' Why this anxiety to destroy me? Since my talents are not of that superior order as to excite envy, much less excite such a combination of talent against me. Yet a little while and all these petty quarrels of puny mortals shall be silenced forever, and although Beaver county in the estimation of Mr. Henry is too contracted a space for us both to breathe in, yet less room will serve us in that 'land of cessation,' where 'the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest.' The editor of the 'Argus' has causelessly provoked this quarrel. He is welcome now to do his worst. 'Lay on M'Duff,' and if we do not apply the *lex talionis*, it will be our own fault."

In the issue of February 26, 1829, the publishers are given as James Logan and James Sharp, and May 5, 1831, A. Logan is named as editor and proprietor. The paper carried the name of Andrew Jackson as the Democratic-Republican candidate for President. Joseph Conrad and Andrew Logan were applicants for postmaster at Beaver, and the "Argus" referring to the applicants for the office, in its issue of April 27, 1832, had this scathing editorial: "All parties have confidence in the integrity and uprightness of intention of the former—in the latter there are but few of any party that have that confidence. But he is a Jackson printer who stops at nothing, and will no doubt receive his reward." When Mr. Logan received the appointment of postmaster the "Argus" gave him an editorial warming up, characteristic of the times in newspaper writing. In the same issue the "Argus" refers to Mr. Phillips, one of the editors of the "Pittsburg Manufacturer," as connected at one time with A. Logan in printing the "Republican."

In the issue of the "Republican" of March 12, 1834, the following article appeared, which showed the lack of friendly feeling between the two Democratic papers: "To our patrons—On Friday evening last we lent our subscription book to Dr. Barker, who promised faithfully

to return it early next morning, since which we have been unable to obtain it—he refusing to deliver it up. The subject will shortly undergo a legal investigation.” The reply of Dr. Barker was that having bought the “Republican” from Mr. Logan, he was entitled to the subscription list, which he would hold until the transfer was made. Inasmuch as Mr. Logan failed to complete his contract, the status of the disputed subscription list was not settled as far as papers at hand show.

June 20, 1834, Andrew Logan retired as editor of the “Republican,” and was succeeded by his brother James Logan. The former declared himself still a hearty supporter of the administration, and advised the readers of the paper that the public would lose nothing by the change of editors.

After the transfer, the “Beaver River Gazette” in its issue of July 10, had this to say: “The ‘Republican’ it is said has been transferred by the postmaster to James Logan, Esq. Now we wish to know whether the postmaster does not issue that paper from the postoffice every week, and if he does, whether he charges the postage required by law? If the postmaster delivers papers without charging postage, he defrauds the office.” The amenities of journalism were rather hazy it would seem from the statements and insinuations of the “Argus” and the “Gazette,” made about this member of the Logan family.

The incumbency of James Logan was brief but stormy, he retiring in September 1834, and Andrew Logan again became editor. The former was a candidate for Assembly on the Van Buren ticket, in addition to his other political offices, and was defeated. The editorship was soon changed again, and about the first of November J. & E. Beeson, strangers to the place, new comers from Ohio, became the editors, who were severely handled by the “Argus.”

The "Republican" suspended May 6, 1835. The "Argus" in its issue of May 16, had the following to say about it: "The 'Republican' has ceased to exist. Notice was given in that paper on Wednesday last, that that number closed its brilliant career, and it is now classed with the things that were. One of the editors has out a prospectus for a new paper to be established on the ruins of the 'Republican,' to be called the 'Democratic Watchman,' but we understand the prospect of success is not flattering. The editors complain that they are not adequately supported, whilst the party think they have the worst of the bargain."

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### BEAVER RIVER GAZETTE.

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Amid the discouragements and uncertainties of the Democratic journals, one appeared on the scene of newspaper activity in 1834, that had decided promise of long life, but it was almost as short lived as it was brilliant. Dr. R. B. Barker and Reece C. Fleeson, started the "Beaver River Gazette" February 11, 1834, Vol. I. No. 1.

The following motto appeared at the head of the paper: "In proportion as the structure of a Government gives force to public opinion, it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened."

The card at the head of the first column was as follows: "The 'Beaver River Gazette' is printed and published on Main street, Beaver, by R. B. Barker and R. C. Fleeson, on a superimperial sheet, every Thursday at \$2 per annum, if paid within the year; or \$2.50 if payment



be longer delayed. Arrearages must be paid before the paper is discontinued. \* \* \* Advertisements inserted at \$1 per square for three insertions, and 25 cents for each subsequent one. Yearly advertisements inserted on reasonable terms. Communications must be post-paid."

The following editorial appeared in the first issue: "In assuming the control of a newspaper press, we are deeply sensible of the responsibility of the duties we engage to perform; and it shall be our constant solicitude to repay the public confidence and favor, so liberally bestowed, by a free and diligent discharge of those duties. That we may err at times, both from weakness of judgment and sensibility of temper, we have little doubt; but as we bring to our undertaking, a willingness of correction and an ardent love of our country and its institutions, we hope they will make amends in some degree, for the errors we may occasionally commit. Whilst then we pledge ourselves to a temperate and independent discharge of duty, we rely with confidence on the continued support and indulgence of our numerous friends."

The design of the new paper and the object in starting it, were given in the following prospectus: "The rapidly increasing business and importance of our flourishing county in the view of many of our enlightened citizens, seem to call for an extension of the means by which the resources and business of the county are brought into public notice. Within the last ten years the population has increased at the rate of fifty per cent; and during the same period great quantities of our fertile soil have been settled and improved into rich and productive farms, whilst our enterprising manufacturers availing themselves of the unlimited water power of our great streams, have added to our character as an agricultural, that of a manufacturing community also. Such increase evidently demands new sources of information.

New interests will be created, and the vast resources of the county unfolded by the operation of fresh enterprise, and new skill will speedily elevate it to that point of wealth and importance to which it is undoubtedly destined to attain. These considerations have induced us to establish a weekly newspaper, to be called the 'Beaver River Gazette.' Devoted as we shall be to the general interests of the county, more than to party strife, it will be our aim to render our paper useful to all classes of the community. The immense agricultural interests of the county shall be faithfully attended to; and every information connected with the business of the farmer shall be carefully sought and laid before him. The manufacturer may rely upon our fervent support; and we will endeavor by all means in our power, to foster our manufacturing establishments and promote their growth. To the merchant and man of business, our paper shall impart all the information that can facilitate commerce, or increase the intercourse of trade, and we shall hope to become an acceptable visitor in the family circle, by our selections in morality and light literature. A department of our paper shall be allotted to the promulgation of the improvements in the arts and discoveries of science, as it is by their adoption and application that the mechanical arts can alone advance to greater perfection.

"Although our design, as we have stated, is not the establishment of an exclusively political paper, yet our course in politics shall be decidedly Democratic; and we will fearlessly applaud and sustain the patriotic exertions of the administrations of the State and General Governments, in the maintenance of republican order and liberty, and for the promotion of those great interests committed by the people to their charge. On all the great and leading topics that shall engage political discussion, our readers may expect us to lay before them,



DR. R. B. BARKER

JESSE J. BARKER

ABNER BARKER

RALPH E. BARKER

PIERCE BARKER

THE NEW YORK  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

ASTOR, LENOX AND  
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.

impartially, the principal argument of our adversaries, whilst, at the same time, we will maintain our own views with becoming zeal and earnestness. But in so doing we will endeavor to avoid that rancor and personal invective so justly offensive to decency and good sense.

"We respectfully solicit the public support,

R. B. BARKER,

R. C. FLEESON."

The Pittsburg, Pa., "Mercury," under date of February 28, 1834, contained the following notice of the paper: "Beaver River Gazette.' We have received the three first numbers of a new paper of the above title, established at Beaver by Dr. R. B. Barker and Mr. R. C. Fleeson. It is a political and literary paper, and is conducted with great spirit and ability. A native of Pittsburg, Dr. Barker is well known to our citizens as a chaste writer. His exertions, in conjunction with the contributions of his highly talented lady, will render the 'Gazette' interesting as a literary paper of no ordinary character. The friends of the administration will also find in it an able advocate of their principles."

The reference to Mrs. Barker was not only a graceful act, but it was as well a merited tribute to a very fine writer in both verse and prose. The columns of the "Gazette" were enriched weekly by her contributions, and were doubtless as popular and eagerly looked for, as the bright and telling editorials of her husband. As showing the high esteem in which this gentle writer was held, whose history is a part of the newspaper history of the county, we quote the following from the Philadelphia "Telegraph" of March 16, 1889:

"One by one death parts the ties which bind us to a generation now rapidly passing away, and which has charmed us by its bright examples. Of the select few whom we recall as illumining the recent past, none stand

more hallowed in loving memory than Mrs. Eliza Hunter Barker, who died March 12. Born nearly eighty years ago in Ireland, she refers to that spot in one of her poems as follows:—

“Land of my birth, dear distant spot,  
Still memory turns to you;  
The gibe of those who know you not,  
The pride of those who do.

“She was the daughter of an officer of the British Navy, and received from private tutors the best instruction, both in the more serious studies and the lighter accomplishments of life. By inheritance possessed of a grace and beauty remarkable among her kinsfolk, she was endowed with a brilliancy of intellect which was enriched by her careful mental culture. \* \* \* Endowed with a rare poetic talent, it is not strange that kindred qualities in others should have blossomed from contact with her. Among her pupils here was the late Stephen C. Foster, whose sweet melodies and pathetic verses have since stirred the hearts of millions, and who received at this fount the first draughts of his poetic inspiration. Herself a poet of rare and pure type, she cultivated assiduously her talent, and wrote many beautiful things, among which we recall her ‘Marguerite,’ ‘Diana,’ ‘An Ode to Masonry,’ and that gem written in the full sympathy of a loving heart after the battle of Shiloh—‘Just as if No Christ Had Died’—coming back in memory like the sweet tones of a departed mother’s lullaby.

“She married in 1826 Dr. Richard Butler Barker, of Pittsburg, a near relative of and named for Major-General Richard Butler, of Revolutionary fame. \* \*

“After the death of her husband in 1860 Mrs. Barker devoted much of her time to writing and other literary pursuits, and was active in this line until within a recent

period, and even of late frequently replying in verse to some of her correspondents, so natural was the gift to her. Much of her writing is still unpublished, but will doubtless soon be given to the world. She spent the later years of her life in Philadelphia, residing with her son Jesse J. Barker, Esq., her advancing years and failing strength rendering a careful and retired manner of life necessary, although her mental powers seemed unimpaired by age. \* \* \* She retained to a high degree that brilliancy of mind, that glow of intellect, and that graceful flame of poesy which lighted all her path from girlhood, and shed a halo of calm, pure, and loving light around her latest hours. With a pure heart and a lively faith in the Redeemer's love, she passed peacefully to the higher life, leaving in the hearts of her sorrowing family and numerous friends the sweet aroma of a blessed memory and a long life well spent.

"In her own words—

"'Our human lives, like streams that seek the sea,  
Grow calmer as they near Eternity;  
Then, resting for a time in quiet sleep,  
The stars of heaven are mirrored in the deep.'"

The political atmosphere was sultry hot within a few weeks after the new paper was started, and the controversies with brother editors and sundry other writers, made the articles in the "Gazette" very interesting. The newspaper war that broke out between the "Gazette" and the "Republican," was lively, and severe. The following editorial from the "Gazette" March 13, 1834, shows that the new editor cherished the hope of becoming the Democratic organ of the county: It read as follows: "On the 5th inst. Mr. Logan entered into a contract with Barker and Fleeson for the sale of the 'Republican' establishment, which he had for some time previous been anxious to dispose of. \* \* \* Why he withdrew from his contract we cannot guess, unless it be that some of

his advisers thought the 'Republican' would not suit them in other hands." The fierceness of the party spirit is well shown in an editorial of the paper in its issue of April 24, 1834, here given in full:

"We did not, we could not expect to escape the assaults of party abuse, but we did not imagine these assaults would have been as virulent as they have been. We have expressed our sentiments fearlessly, and for this we are denounced by the leaders of a party that does not tolerate independence. They have threatened to prostrate our press. They may do so. We cannot pretend to have means sufficient to withstand the combination of any set of men. We may go down, but if we do we have the satisfaction of knowing that the dynasty they maintain is also near its end, and that we fall not in such company. We have comfort in this feeling, but we trust we have friends among the lovers of the Constitution and the laws who will not suffer the trampling power of an arrogant and domineering faction to succeed in overthrowing every press that dares to breathe its political heresy. Is it not enough to awaken the people to a sense of the danger that threatens their liberties, when office holders and the partisans of what ought to have been a Republican administration, not only applaud the abuse of power in the Executive head, but also mark as the victims of their vengeance, all who have the independence to raise their voices against it. We will hold on however, on our course, and though the breakers of party may now and then bulge in a board, yet we will repair as we can, the damage we may sustain, and our barque shall not founder for want of a hand to guide. Are our antagonists, displeased with their name? Let them change their principles. Let them learn to reverence the Constitution which divides the powers of the government and denies to any branch a supreme authority over the whole—and we will gladly accord to



them the name and prize. But while one man is supported in measures, 'whether right or wrong,' and no law but his will be the rule of their consciences, while the powers lodged by the Constitution in other branches of the government are usurped from them, one by one, and the lawful authority of the Senate of their representation is contemned,—to men who advocate such principles, we say—You are Tories, and though you may disclaim it, it is still your title.

"The people will not be long deceived. They will look from the window before they admit the wolves to their confidence, and notwithstanding you call yourselves lambs, it will require but a glance to perceive the imposition.

"Fellow Citizens—read—examine—suffer not yourselves to be lead and duped by an array of office-holders and office-seekers—who regard nothing but the patronage of the government, and have the audacity to avow it. Divest yourselves of the delusions of party, and let the intelligence of American citizens astonish, and their virtue condemn their deceivers."

There is no record showing how long the "Gazette" was published. The failure to secure the "Republican" was doubtless a great disappointment to the "Gazette," and the presence of both in the same political field, hastened their death and both fell by the way about the same time. The last reference to the "Gazette" in the "Argus" was May 3, 1834, and it is probable it died in the latter part of 1834, or early in 1835.

The "Argus" in its issue of May 6, 1835, in commenting on the death of the "Republican," said: "We have now the whole field to ourselves; and as long as this is the case, we are willing to extend to our Jackson friends liberties and acts of courtesy, that under other circumstances could not be asked. Calls for meetings, together

with proceedings, shall willingly find a place in our columns, whether for Wolf or Muhlenberg." Evidently the "Gazette" died first, followed by the death of the "Republican."

Reece C. Fleeson was a prominent man in newspaper circles. He went to Pittsburg after the failure of the "Gazette." In the "Argus" of June 21, 1843, it is stated that "Reece C. Fleeson Esq., editor of the 'Washington Banner,' has been removed from the postoffice at Allegheny, and is succeeded by William Karns a rabid, noisy Loco Foco." Mr. Fleeson was editor of the "Daily Evening News," and the weekly "Spirit of Liberty," published in Pittsburg, devoted to the Liberty party, which failed in December 1846. Later he was one of the editors of the "Pittsburg Dispatch," and died Monday March 16, 1863.

Abner Barker was born near Stanton, Delaware, July 31, 1760, and died at Pittsburg, Pa., June 8, 1829. He was a son of Samuel Barker born 1723, died 1803,—who was a grandson of Samuel Barker from Shropshire, England, who settled in Delaware in 1685. Abner Barker came to Pittsburg in the early seventeen nineties,—became a leading merchant there and married in 1800 Miss Eleanor Butler Scandrett, a niece of the General Richard Butler of Revolutionary fame. Abner Barker took a leading interest in educational matters, and was one of the founders of the Western University of Pennsylvania, and was a member, and a warden of Old Trinity Church, Pittsburg, Pa., in the church yard of which he was buried. His grandfather was Joseph, son of the Colonial Settler Samuel Barker.

Dr. Richard Butler Barker son of Abner Barker, was born at Pittsburg, Pa., November 23, 1803. He died in Beaver, Pa., August 4, 1860. He was a fine scholar, and first studied law with Judge Walker of Pittsburg, and was admitted to the Pittsburg Bar, but not liking the

profession of law, afterwards studied medicine under Dr. James Agnew, father of the late Hon. Daniel Agnew. After graduating in medicine from the Medical College in Baltimore, Md., he removed to Beaver, Pa., in 1829, entering into partnership there with Dr. Milo Adams and practiced medicine there until his last illness, with the exception of a few years during which he devoted his time to editorial work in connection with the "Beaver River Gazette," and the "Western Star," both published at Beaver, Pa. He was a skilful, and one of the leading physicians and surgeons of the county, and his reputation as such caused him to be summoned in important cases at a considerable distance. His family and widow in 1862 removed to Pittsburg, Pa., and from thence in 1864 to Philadelphia. His son Jesse J. Barker, now actuary of the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, finished his education at Philadelphia, graduating from the Philadelphia High School, then studied law and was admitted to the Philadelphia Bar in 1879, and is a member of the Actuarial Society of America. Jesse J. Barker has two sons, Ralph Emerson Barker and Pierce Barker. The eldest son Ralph, is an electrical engineer, connected with the General Electric Co. at Lynn, Mass.; the younger son Pierce, is attending the course of mining engineering at the Colorado School of Mines at Golden, Colorado, and expects to make that his life work. They are both well educated and able young men.

## DEMOCRATIC WATCHMAN.

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The first number of the "Democratic Watchman," the successor of the "Beaver Republican," appeared on Friday June 19, 1835, published by J. Beeson. It was supposed to be backed by the same men who owned and controlled the "Republican." It was the organ of the Wolf faction of the Democratic party, the Governor of the State for two terms and who was a candidate for a third term in 1835, as an Independent Democrat. Opposed to him were Joseph Ritner, Anti-Mason candidate and Henry A. Muhlenberg Democrat, resulting in the election of Ritner. As the campaign advanced, the passages between the "Watchman" and the "Argus" became lively and personal. In the issue of July 22, the "Watchman" observed that "the last 'Argus' confesses that it wilfully made a false quotation from a correspondent in the 'Watchman.'" The "Argus" copied the paragraph and added to it—"this is a wilful and barefaced lie."

The liveliest tilts however were between the "Watchman" and the "Fallston and Brighton Gazette," a paper started August 5, 1835, in Fallston by Dr. E. K. Chamberlain of New Brighton, and N. P. Fetterman Esq., of Beaver, representing the Muhlenberg wing of the party. The history of this paper appears among the Fallston papers. It was ably conducted and was a thorn in the side of the "Watchman." The enmity between the factions resulted in the defeat of both of them, and after the election the "Democratic Watchman" succumbed to the inevitable, and was laid to rest in the second week of December. The "Gazette" lasted until the next year, when it came into competition with the "Aurora."

## THE AURORA

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Alex. R. Niblo of Brighton township, started the "Aurora" as the successor of the "Democratic Watchman," in March 1836. The first mention of the paper by its contemporaries, was in the "Argus" of May 25, 1836, which referred to the report of a Young Men's political meeting published in the "Aurora." There is no record of how long Mr. Niblo remained editor, but probably until the suspension of the paper in the fall of 1838. Mr. Niblo and his brother John R. Niblo, were both printers, and the latter helped in the mechanical work on the "Aurora." They were the sons of John R. Niblo who came from Ireland and settled in Brighton township as a farmer. John R. Niblo, Jr., died in 1842. Alex. R. Niblo went west and in September 1857, was appointed postmaster at Newark, Ill., and was killed in a railroad accident near Alliance, O., June 24, 1858.

The "Aurora" was revived early in December 1838, with J. W. White of Massillon, O., as editor. The paper was enlarged and improved in appearance, and the new editor promised such improvements as would "revolutionize Beaver county." This expression did not tend to amity among the newspaper brethren, and the rivals of the "Aurora" were on the alert to trip up the new and audacious editor. The "Fallston Gazette" was now dead so that the "Aurora" was supreme journalistically in its party. The "Fallston Union," the Whig successor of the "Gazette," and the "Argus," were its competitors.

The "Fallston Union" in referring to the new management said: "The Beaver 'Aurora' has again risen under new auspices. The editor and publisher is J. Washing-

ton White, and proprietors J. W. White and David Porter. The typographical appearance of the paper is much improved, and the leading editorial though not indicating the experience of a veteran writer, in spirit is liberal and cautious. We welcome the new editor to the editorial ranks and congratulate our political opponents that a purer and more elevated tone is to pervade the columns of the new 'Aurora.'"

The "Argus" in its issue of January 9, 1839, commented severely on the failure of Mr. White to keep his promises, and declares "that he is a more contemptible catspaw than any of the half score who have preceded him in that concern." The "Aurora" was discontinued March 1, 1839.

The "Argus" expressed regret at the failure, for the sake of the Whig cause, and said, "we have some notion of issuing proposals for publishing a history of the rise and fall of Loco Foco editors in Beaver county. It might perhaps be made quite interesting; at all events there would be variety in it.

This ended the career of the Democratic papers in the town of Beaver, until the launching of the "Western Star" on the sea of journalism in 1843; but it did not end the career of Democratic papers in the county.

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### BEAVER FALLS CHRONICLE.

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The "Beaver Falls Chronicle" was started in Rochester October 12, 1839, as the Democratic successor of the "Aurora," with J. W. White as editor, which hauled down the Van Buren flag in June 1840, and hoisted that of General Harrison, and in July was removed to Brighton. The history of the "Chronicle" will be found among the Beaver Falls papers.

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## BEAVER COUNTY PATRIOT.

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In June 1841, Jonas B. Shurtleff brought from the east a complete newspaper outfit, and started a Democratic paper in Bridgewater, which he named the "Beaver County Patriot." It was an ably edited and attractive paper, and contained the following in the salutation to the Democratic hosts: "We shall study to promote the interests of the county, in a business point of view, withholding no credit from any individual, to whatever political party he may attach himself, for any aid he may afford in facilitating the growing improvements connected with the prosperity of the county. And amid all the political strifes that have attended our career, we have never lost sight of that respect due to those who have differed with us in political opinions, for whenever men suffer the exchange of little neighborly kindnesses to be sacrificed to gratify political ambition, not only do those immediately at variance suffer, but a precedent is established which, if generally carried out, would mar the peace, quietude and confidence which are the binding cords of social happiness."

The "Western Argus" gave the new paper a welcome, saying—"We are willing to meet the new editor in the spirit of courtesy and toleration. There's room sufficient for him amongst us; and if we should differ in regard to measures and men, we trust it will be in an honorable spirit, and free from the low personalities which too often disgrace the profession."

And they certainly differed, and the political discussions between the two papers became at times very warm and personal. They had a long and heated dis-

eussion about the county printing, in which the "Patriot" charged that the "Argus" received too high rates, but Mr. Henry held his own and showed the charge to be incorrect.

The paper was the Democratic successor of the "Beaver Falls Chronicle," but it was not successful and reached its end in 1843.

The following notice appeared in the "Western Argus" January 11, 1843, of B. B. Chamberlain Esq., assignee, who announced the sale at his office in New Brighton January 21, 1843, of "all the right, title and interest of Jonas B. Shurtleff, decreed a bankrupt, in and to the subscription and advertising books of the "Beaver County Patriot," published at Bridgewater up to the 30th day of December 1842." Though the foregoing named effects were sold, the paper was not discontinued.

It was stated by the "Argus" that a number of politicians bought the material, including presses, and retained the editor. In its issue of August 30, 1843, the "Argus" mercilessly scored the "Patriot," whose editor in bankruptcy, tried to collect a subscription of five dollars from Governor Porter while in the county. This led to a bitter controversy and much feeling. The climax came in October 1843, when the "Argus" in a half column editorial told of the troubles of the editor of the "Patriot" with the party bosses, who took the type and presses from the editor and set him adrift, sending for a young man to take his place. There is no record that this young man remained if he ever came, as the paper does not seem to have appeared after October, but was succeeded by the "Western Star" December 15, 1843.



## CHAPTER III.

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### FALLSTON PAPERS.

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Among the early papers of the county, were those in operation at the falls of the Beaver, in the period from 1835 to 1841. They were started shortly before the panic that prostrated this whole section, but managed to keep in existence in some form through the worst of it. One of these papers, the "Chronicle" of Rochester, removed in 1839 to Beaver Falls, was the only one outside of Fallston, and with its death, a long period elapsed before any one had the courage to start another paper at the falls.

The Fallston papers were edited and controlled by four of the best known and ablest men of the county, two lawyers, one physician and one clergyman; and they all covered themselves with journalistic honor, but with an entire absence of financial success.

This section was then forging to the front in industrial development, and the time seemed ripe for a newspaper to be successful, but all attempts ended in failure, despite the ability and reputation of the gentlemen who had charge of the successive ventures.

On March 18, 1796, John McKee of McKeesport, executed an article of agreement with one Levi B. Stuart,

that he would give Stuart "a part of his plantation that lies on the west side of Big Beaver creek, opposite the blockhouse at the lower falls of said creek," for living and clearing on his part what the law requires, etc. January 26, 1798, Stuart assigned his rights to Joseph Wells, who in turn assigned all his rights to David Townsend January 26, 1799. Soon after this one hundred acres of this property came into the possession of a company composed of David Townsend, Benj. Townsend and Benj. Sharpless, who sold about one third of the tract to Evan and John Pugh December 13, 1802.

In 1800 David Townsend started a saw mill and in 1804 the Messrs. Pugh set up a flouring mill, and thus began Fallston, which became for many years the most flourishing manufacturing town in the valley.

Prosperity was in the air, and then the newspaper man appeared on the scene. The only papers in the county were in Beaver, and it was perhaps partly on account of failure to maintain a third paper in that town, that the effort was made in Fallston. There was the most intense war between the Wolf and Muhlenberg factions of the Democratic party in the State. Both these leaders were Democratic candidates for Governor and their respective adherents were full of fight and anxious for newspaper organs. The "Democratic Watchman" of Beaver, was the Wolf organ in the county, busy in meeting the attacks of the "Argus," the able champion of Joseph Ritner who was elected Governor by the division of the Democrats. In this condition of political turmoil, The "Fallston and Brighton Gazette," the first paper at the falls of the Beaver, came into being.

## THE FALLSTON AND BRIGHTON GAZETTE.

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This paper was started at Fallston August 5, 1835, by Dr. E. K. Chamberlain of New Brighton, and N. P. Fetterman Esq., of Beaver. It was a Muhlenberg paper, in opposition to the "Beaver Watchman" a Wolf paper, the respective heads of the Democratic factions. The "Argus" had the following notice of the new paper: "The gentlemen named are capable of publishing a spirited paper, worthy of the patronage of the party to which they belong." The "Gazette" was printed on a large imperial sheet, and was devoted to the support of Van Buren, Johnson and Muhlenberg.

Dr. Ephraim Kirby Chamberlain was a prominent man in the life of the community, was interested in some business enterprises, and was a valuable member of business and social circles. He was born in Colebrook, Conn., April 24, 1805. In 1815 his parents moved to Elbridge, N. Y., where he was educated. He studied medicine with Dr. Elijah Kendrick who married his sister Minerva, and was graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, January 1828. In early manhood he moved to New Brighton, where he entered into partnership with his brother Dr. W. H. H. Chamberlain in 1834. March 29, 1836, he married Susan Pennock Clark of Chester county, Pa. They began housekeeping in the old red brick house in Fallston, south of the Fallston bridge. The Doctor was six feet two inches tall, a fine looking gentleman, and very popular on account of his excellent and humane traits of character. In 1841 he moved with his family to Cincinnati, O., where

he was very successful in his profession. His wife died in 1846. During the Mexican War he was surgeon of the First regiment of Ohio troops in General Taylor's command. He was popular as an army surgeon, and was known as "Old Medicine" among the troops, who held him in high and loving esteem. After peace was established, he was appointed surgeon on a committee named by the President, to establish boundaries between Mexico and the United States. The committee went to California, and while there the Doctor became interested in the gold mines. When California was erected into a State, he was elected to the State Senate and was made the first president of that body. He contracted fever on the isthmus of Panama in 1852, and died December 25, 1852.

N. P. Fetterman Esq., was born in Northwestern Pennsylvania February 4, 1804. He studied law in the office of his brother W. W. Fetterman Esq., Beaver, Pa., and was admitted to the Bar August 14, 1825. He removed to Bedford, Pa., where he was elected to the legislature for three successive terms. In 1830 he returned to Beaver, where he lived until 1849, when he removed to Pittsburg, establishing a partnership with his nephew, G. L. B. Fetterman Esq. Prior to the Civil War Mr. Fetterman was a strong member of the Democratic party, and took a prominent part in its campaigns, but during the war he became a strong supporter of the Union cause, and gave two sons as members of the 101st Pa. Volunteers. He was married December 28, 1828, to Miss Anna M. Dillon of Bedford, Pa., and had eight children. He died in 1877.

The paper was an able one, far beyond the ability of the community to support it, and the defeat of the Democratic party, made the task of publishing a difficult, and eventually a hopeless, one. Accepting the inevitable, the

paper was discontinued by these gentlemen in November 1836.

The "Argus" made the following reference to its demise: "While the 'Fallston Gazette' was in possession of life and strength, it seemed to be the dread and terror of the 'Aurora,'—that paper scarcely ever making an allusion to it. Since the death of the 'Gazette,' however, our neighbors have ventured upon an attack, thinking, perhaps, they may do so with impunity. This looks too much like the 'ass kicking at the dead lion.'"

The paper was revived in December 1836, under the proprietorship of Dr. John Winter, who conducted it as a Whig paper. It was a strong journal for that day, and Dr. Winter made a good impression for ability and honesty of purpose. The issue of Saturday June 17, 1837, was an interesting local one, containing an article on the great sale of real estate at the Falls. Thirty shares of water power were sold at \$248 per share, the stone mill went for \$5,150, one hundred town lots were sold at prices ranging from \$110 to \$600, and the article concludes with the statement that better prices were received than "in any other place in the Union at the present time." In November 1837, Dr. Winter retired from the "Gazette."

John Winter was born in Wellington, England, July 1794. His thoughts and purpose were early turned towards the ministry of the Baptist church, and he entered the Theological School at Bradford, where he was graduated in 1820, preaching meanwhile as opportunities offered.

The following copy of his State license may be of interest:

West Riding of Yorkshire,

I, John Sturges Esq., One of his Majesty's justices of peace in and for the said riding, do hereby certify

that John Winter of Horton, in the said riding, did this day appear before me, and did make and take, and subscribe the several oaths and declarations specified in an act made in the fifty-second year of King George the third, entitled an act to repeal certain acts and amend other acts relating to religious worship and assemblies, and persons preaching or teaching therein.

Witness my hand this 10th day of June, one thousand and eight hundred and seventeen.

JOHN STURGES.

His first pastoral charge was in South Shields, where he was regularly ordained in 1822. He came to America and settled in Pittsburg, bringing his wife, Eliza Wilson, whom he had married in 1819, and one child. He preached and taught school in Pittsburg, and for many years preached in various places in Allegheny and Beaver counties. He was also busy with his pen writing for the religious and secular periodicals. He wrote the life of "Massie Harbison," who had been captured by the Indians and escaped from them, taking the narrative from her lips and giving it literary form. He also wrote a controversial volume, "What is Baptism?" He was an able preacher and his services were much sought. He filled pastorates in several states, and was instrumental in building a large number of church edifices. In later life, when pastor in New Brighton, he built the first Baptist church in that place. He had five children, his wife dying November 7, 1866. He married a second time, Ann Snively, who died September 24, 1899. Dr. Winter died at Sharon, Pa., November 5, 1878.

John B. Early succeeded Dr. Winter in the "Gazette," and it was published by him until January 6, 1838, as a Whig paper, when it passed into the hands of B. B. Chamberlain Esq., as editor, and it is believed Mr. Early remained as publisher of the paper under the new

management for some time at least. Mr. Early was born February 22, 1816, at Chambersburg, Pa., and received a common school education. He learned the printing business in 1831 in an office at New Lisbon, O., with a man named Watt. He worked on the "Aurora" between 1835 and 1838, on the "Argus" for some years, run a job office in New Brighton in 1840, was editor of the "Beaver County Palladium" 1841, and after that went to New Castle the same year where he was foreman of a paper. He returned to Beaver December 28, 1842, and was foreman on the "Argus" for years. Later he held cases on the Pittsburg "Dispatch" for a number of years and returned to Beaver in 1860, where he worked on the "Star." Mr. Early was married to Miss Mary Taylor of New Brighton, September 1, 1836. They had ten children, of whom three are living, Henry, William and Margaret. His ancestors came from Germany, while his wife's were Scotch-Irish, both their parents being born in America. Mr. Early died March 16, 1862, while his wife is still living at the age of 84 years.

Mr. Early was one of the best printers ever in the county. It is said of him that he would set in type a page of his paper, take a proof on the hand press, and it would be free of errors in many cases, and very seldom were any corrections needed. He was an expert fisherman and generous with his friends in the big catches he made.



## BEAVER FALLS UNION.

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The "Beaver Falls Union and Beaver County Advocate," published weekly by the Beaver Falls Press Association, the successor of the "Fallston and Brighton Gazette," was started January 6, 1838, with B. B. Chamberlain Esq., editor. It was a six column paper, subscription price \$2.00 per year, and contained a large amount of reading matter, mostly general news, political and miscellany reading, but not so much attention was given to the local news and gossip of the neighborhood. It was the only paper then in the county outside of Beaver, and depended mainly on the people at the Falls of the Beaver, Fallston, New Brighton and vicinity for support. The following prospectus was published:

"The 'Beaver Falls Union and Beaver County Advocate,' will be more especially devoted to the paramount object of imparting correct information abroad, in relation to the general advantages and resources of Beaver county, and the great manufacturing facilities and commercial claims of Beaver Falls and its vicinity.

"For various commercial conveniences—undeveloped mineral wealth—unimproved water power, and manufacturing capacities—for the mild salubrity of its climate, and for the romantic beauty and sublimity of its scenery, Beaver county is not surpassed by any of the rival and thriving sections of the south and west. To present fairly our claims to public consideration—to point out the many inducements here presented to capital and enterprise, to exert their influence and efforts, in building up as nature has designed and contemplated a



great manufacturing and commercial town, will be the primary duty of the 'Union and Advocate.'

"In accordance with public sentiment and expectations, the 'Union' unfurls the banner of the 'Supremacy of the constitution and laws, and Integrity of the Union.' It will yield its undeviating support to the cardinal measures and principles of the Whig party—comprising as they do, those elements of political policy and action, that have essentially contributed to lay the broad foundations of our constitutional liberties, and as a people, given us station and rank among the nations of the earth. It will zealously contribute its aid in exposing the ruinous measures of the national administration, which with mad violence and desperation, has been piecemeal tearing away the supports—sapping the strength and marring the symmetry of the noblest edifice of constitutional government, ever devised by human wisdom, reared and adorned by human toils and virtues.

"Conservative action and united resolution—compromising forbearance and enlightened patriotism, are indispensable to effect immediate political reform, and insure the wonted prosperity of the nation, and the permanent security of its free institutions.

"The miscellaneous department of the paper will be carefully supervised. It will be the aim of the 'Union' to spread before its patrons a variety of entertaining and instructive information, such as to measureably satisfy the tastes and wishes of its readers. The rich fruits of science and the attractive flowers of literature, will be so presented and displayed as to enlarge the understanding—enliven the imagination and mend the heart. January 3, 1838."

During this time Dr. E. K. Chamberlain was postmaster at Fallston, and James Patterson at Brighton, who published regularly in this paper, their lists of letters not called for. New Brighton then had no postoffice.

The issue of January 20, contained the names of the officers of the newly organized Beaver County Institute at New Brighton, for the "promotion of science and literature, but more especially of natural history." James Patterson was president, and among the other officers were Dr. E. K. Chamberlain, Dr. John Winter, and B. B. Chamberlain Esq., who were editors between 1834 and 1838.

In the same issue was a report of the organization of the Beaver Falls Colonization Society at New Brighton. In other issues were reports and notices of a Temperance Society, Anti-slavery, and other movements that were demanding the attention of the people. In all that the editor believed to be for the good of the people, he gave a hearing and support.

In the issue of January 27, there is a full report of several columns, of a meeting held at Pittsburg January 10, to take action on the construction of a railroad between Pittsburg and Beaver. The convention was organized by calling James Patterson of Brighton, to the chair. Among the delegates from Beaver county were William Henry and Dr. E. K. Chamberlain, editors of the county. In the issue of February 10, a report is given of a meeting called to take action on the freedom of speech and the press, on account of certain proceedings in Congress, the meeting being held in the Fallston Academy, with Robert Townsend chairman and John Collins secretary. The chairman appointed a committee on resolutions composed of Dr. E. K. Chamberlain, Dr. John Winter, B. B. Chamberlain Esq., Joseph Hice and H. Mendenhall, the first three newspaper editors. It is needless to say that the resolutions were full of ginger and easily understood.

In all the public movements of the day, these Fallston editors were among the most active and forceful, men of high character, courage and intellectual ability.

The industries of the two towns were given in the issue of February 10. Fallston had two saw mills, two oil mills, one sash factory, two bucket factories, one wire mill, three woolen factories, two flour mills, one paper mill, and a population of 800. New Brighton had four grist mills, two carpet factories, one felt factory, one carpet and woolen factory, two saw mills, and population 900. These industries were all operated by the water power from two of the dams on the falls of the Beaver.

The annual statement of the Receipts and Expenditures of the county for 1837, was published in the issue of February 17, showing receipts for the year of \$10,330.91 1-4, and expenditures of \$11,563.23 3-4.

The papers of the day were given much to politics, and in its issue of March 3, the editor asks the indulgence of his patrons for several weeks to come, for giving place to so much political matter. After this period he promised other matter of greater quantity. This issue had about 13 columns of political matter out of 24, and seven of the remainder were advertisements. During the summer of 1838 the political contest for Governor was fierce, and the "Union" in battling for Gov. Ritner against Porter, had some strong editorials.

B. B. Chamberlain Esq., retired from the paper after one year's work, an editorial in the issue of January 12, 1839, giving his reasons. It filled precisely one column of space and was a dignified statement, covering the political conditions, and giving reasons from a business point of view why the local press should be sustained, for the good of the community and for the best interests of business men.

As to the need of a paper he wrote:—"The press is not contemplated to conform on all occasions to the views of its supporters and readers. It is impracticable. It is as idle to expect it as that individual members of

society should always harmonize in religious dogmas and social customs. When its main efforts are faithfully exerted, however, to uphold the pillars of our social edifice—to scatter broadcast the seeds of knowledge and virtue—and with liberal zeal to promote the growth and prosperity of the place of its location, over whose interests it should bestow a watchful guardianship, no matter what may be the peculiar views of public duty, a newspaper is entitled to the united support of every intelligent and business man. Every consideration, that can actuate good citizens—the fruitful lessons of the age—the various schemes of novel enterprise—a laudable ambition for moral and social usefulness—the pride of local pre-eminence—a desire for rapid advancement—all that can confer dignity at home and command respect abroad—charms of the present and the aspirations for the future—all combine to inspire a determination in reflecting minds of supporting a local press in all emergencies and vicissitudes.” During his work on the paper, the editor had his office in New Brighton in his law office, while the newspaper was located in Fallston, a considerable distance away.

Brown B. Chamberlain Esq., was born in Frelighsburg, Canada East, May 22, 1810. His parents Dr. John B. and Mercy Chamberlain, were natives of Richmond, Mass. At the breaking out of the War of 1812, his parents left the British Dominions and went to Auburn, N. Y., where they remained for some time. Brown’s schooling was received at Graham, Lewiston and Buffalo, N. Y. He began the study of law with Hon. Bates Crohe and H. S. Stone and finished in the office of Fillmore & Hall, Buffalo, 1833-34, the former of whom Millard Fillmore, became President of the United States. Mr. Chamberlain was admitted to the Supreme Court (U. S.) at Albany in 1835. In 1836 he came to Beaver county and was admitted to practice June 5, 1837. In



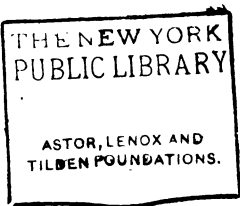
N. P. FETTERMAN

DR. E. K. CHAMBERLAIN

DR. JOHN WINTER

H. B. CHAMBERLAIN

DR. N. M. WILSON



1853-4-5, he represented Beaver county in the legislature. In 1866 he was appointed Judge of the 27th Judicial district, Washington and Beaver counties, but failed of election in the autumn of 1866. Through his influence with President Fillmore, he was appointed postmaster at New Brighton November 12, 1849. Until that time the town had been dependent on Fallston for its postal facilities. He continued practicing his profession in New Brighton until 1887 when he retired. Judge Chamberlain was never married. He died March 23, 1891.

The paper continued in operation until March 2, 1839, being No. 5, Volume 2, when the following editorial appeared: "Our paper will from necessity be obliged to suspend, until new arrangements are effected to renew the publication. It is to be hoped for the reputation of our community, the paper will reappear in a few weeks, and that no further interruptions will occur. Unless our subscribers pay more promptly for arrearages, and also according to our terms, pay at least a portion in advance, it will be impossible to prosecute the publication."

No name is given as a successor to Mr. Chamberlain, and no record anywhere shows such a successor to have been appointed, and the paper then ceased to exist.



## CHAPTER IV.

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### THE WESTERN ARGUS.

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The "Western Argus" was started by James Logan September 1, 1818. In the first issue, of that date, Mr. Logan had the following editorial: "As we have been disappointed in getting our press in operation, and the public manifesting a great desire for the commencement of the publication of the paper, we have not been able as yet to issue proposals for a subscription to the 'Argus;' we have therefore sent on the first number to the patrons of the 'Beaver Gazette,' and if any feel a disposition to withdraw their patronage, they can signify the same by a line sent to the editor, otherwise we expect they will consider themselves subscribers."

Thus was started on its career of usefulness, the oldest paper in Beaver county, which for over 86 years has retained the name of "Argus" in some form, and has never lost its distinctive character. In all that time the paper has advocated the cause of the Whig party since its formation in 1832, and its successor the Republican party. The ablest writers ever in the county have been among its editors, and the most astute politicians of the county at some time have held an interest in it. Mr. Logan had full control of the paper until 1825, when he



sold it in January of that year to one of the most prominent men in the county, Hon. Thomas Henry, who had just closed his term as Sheriff of the county.

Mr. Henry was born in Ireland May 16, 1781. His father Wm. Henry, came to this country in 1783 and settled in Maryland, thence removing to Beaver county in 1796, and began a settlement on the east side of the Beaver river. The land on which the settlement was made, was found afterwards to be warranted to Benjamin Chew, and one hundred acres was purchased from him. William Henry the father, lived on the farm until his death, but William and Thomas, who were carpenters, went to Beaver in 1798, but annually visited the farm. Dec. 24, 1808 he was appointed Justice of the Peace by Gov. Simon Snyder; was elected County Commissioner 1810; was captain of a company in 1814 to protect the shores of Lake Erie against the British; in 1815 was elected to the Legislature; 1816 appointed Prothonotary and Clerk of Courts of the county which he held until 1821, when he was elected Sheriff; in 1828 and 1829 he was Treasurer of the county; in 1831 was appointed Associate Judge by Gov. George Wolf and was elected to Congress in 1836 and served three terms. As editor and public official he performed his duty with fidelity, correctness and honesty of purpose. In 1816 he became a member of the Presbyterian church, and was chosen elder in 1825, in which position he was as true and influential as in the others.

In the years that the "Argus" was owned by Thomas Henry, the controversies between political opponents were bitter and frequent, and the language used left no doubt of the position of the gentlemen engaged. The first opposition paper, the "Republican," was started in 1826, and from that on there was journalistic war whenever politics was warmed up. A series of controversial articles between Samuel Power and Abner Lacock in

1830, was interesting reading, and the arguments and manner of presenting them were straight from the shoulder. Occasionally Mr. Henry felt the necessity of writing an article and signing his name to it, in addition to his regular editorial articles.

As soon as Mr. Henry secured the paper, he set to work to improve it in appearance. In number 10, March 1825, he had the following notice: "In our first number we promised our patrons, that the 'Western Argus' should in a short time, change its appearance by procuring new type, etc. Least some should doubt the fulfillment of that promise, we now give additional assurance that we have sent to the Type Foundry at Cincinnati for a quantity of new type, etc., which we expect to receive in the course of next week. We have also procured a quantity of paper, of super royal size that we purpose (unless disappointed) to issue a paper the Saturday prior to the next court, with new type and on a super royal sheet. We feel grateful to our fellow citizens, for the generous encouragement given us since the transfer of the establishment into our hands, and hope to merit a continuance of it."

In the issue of April 9, notice is given that "the office of the 'Argus' is removed from the west end of the Court House, to Market street north west side of the Diamond, near the dwelling house of the editor." In this issue the failure to receive the new type was announced, the foundry being so full of orders that it could not be furnished under six weeks. The new type came in due time, however, and the paper was enlarged to five columns, and was published on Friday. Until that time it was a four column paper, published on Saturdays. In its prospectus at that time, it was stated that "one half of subscription will be taken in any kind of grain."

In this period the "Argus" was for John Quincy Adams' re-election for President, and was severe in its

controversies with the "Republican." The latter was the Jackson organ and was very bitter.

In the "Argus" of March 9, 1830, the names of the printers and publishers were given as T. & W. Henry.

In the issue of the paper January 21, 1831, Mr. Henry announced his retirement from the "Argus" in an editorial as follows: "The present number closes the sixth volume of the 'Argus' (under his management) constituting a period of six years. It was my design when I purchased the 'Argus' establishment from Mr. Logan, to transfer it to my eldest son, when he arrived at a proper age, and other considerations would justify such a course. It is now deemed proper and right to make this transfer. The 'Argus' therefore, in future, will be conducted by William Henry and forwarded to the patrons of the paper as heretofore. In making this change it is confidently anticipated the public will sustain no loss—although he is quite a youth, he possesses such a firmness and sobriety of character, combined with close application to business that will, it is believed, be a sure guarantee to his supporters, that he will issue a sober and respectable paper."

In the issue of January 28, 1831, William Henry assumed editorial control, with the following editorial: "In assuming the control and entire management of the 'Argus,' we are aware that we incur great responsibility; because it is our belief that upon the honesty and purity of the press the safety and permanency of our Republican institutions depend. \* \* \* We do not promise our patrons much talent, or even 'brilliancy,' but we promise as far as we are capable of judging, to present to them honestly, the passing events of the times, both foreign and domestic. The principles upon which the 'Argus' will be conducted, will be the same as heretofore. Our duty to our country and to ourselves, forbid any change of principle on the great questions which

agitate the public mind. \* \* \* The 'Argus' will be conducted on fair and honorable principles, entirely free from low scurrility and abuse. We never did believe it to be an evidence of a desire to promote the welfare and happiness of our country, or even 'brilliancy' for an editor to open the floodgates of low billingsgate against those who might differ with him in opinion. It shall be open for free discussion on all subjects. Being young and inexperienced in a great measure, we will hope and expect an indulgent public to throw the mantle of charity around us for any errors we may commit."

William Henry was born June 28, 1808. At the age of 16 he entered the office as an apprentice, and was its editor at 23, which position he held until 1851. He was an earnest advocate of public improvements in the county, among which may be named the Erie Canal from the Ohio to Lake Erie; the Beaver & Conneaut railroad, of which a survey was made in 1836, but the panic of 1837 stopped all proceedings, the line being now covered by the P. & L. E. R. R.; the Ohio and Pennsylvania railroad, now the Ft. Wayne R. R.; and took an active part in the discussion of the great questions of the day—nullification movement, tariff, U. S. bank, Mexican War, etc. Mr. Henry was one of the ablest editors in Western Pennsylvania. His style was terse and vigorous, and aggressive to the utmost in political discussions. Mr. Henry was married to Eliza S. Hamilton April 18, 1833.

He was an honest, able man, serving the people faithfully as editor and public official. He was Treasurer of the county in 1857-8, a member of the Legislature in 1861-2-3, and after his term as Treasurer, was Secret Agent of the county to buy up the bonds issued by the county to construct the Cleveland & Pittsburg R. R., the \$100,000 subscription being taken up by the payment of \$71,000.

During the 20 years when Mr. Henry owned the

"Argus," some of the most important events in the history of the Republic took place. He was in the midst of the threatened nullification movement, headed by John C. Calhoun, and was strong and fearless in his opposition to it. The United States bank question and the panic of 1837 engrossed his attention and kept busy his pen, and the war with Mexico was the most exciting of all the events of the period. On all these questions Mr. Henry was with his party, and he left no opportunity pass to score severely the Democratic papers and their supporters.

Among the earliest of William Henry's editorials were those on internal improvements. He was persistent and untiring in his efforts to influence public sentiment for a canal through the Beaver Valley, and he was watchful of every act of the Legislature on the subject. He wrote an able editorial on President Jackson's veto of the internal improvement bill, and was a firm and consistent supporter of the American System of Protection. When the Legislature made an appropriation for the Beaver Division of the Pennsylvania Canal in April 1831, he wrote jubilant editorials. In the issue of the paper of April 22 of that year, John Dickey, superintendent of the Beaver Division, invited sealed proposals for constructing the canal from the mouth of the Beaver river to New Castle.

In local political controversies the "Argus" had much to do with the Logan brothers, James and Andrew, who conducted the Beaver "Republican." He seems to have become disgusted with Andrew Logan's methods and in a caustic editorial May 27, says that he shall endeavor hereafter to avoid all controversy with him, "as we cannot stoop to his level; but if circumstances demand it of us, we shall not be backwards in exposing in our plainest language his base fabrications and calumnies." He was particularly severe on Andrew Logan in his attempts to

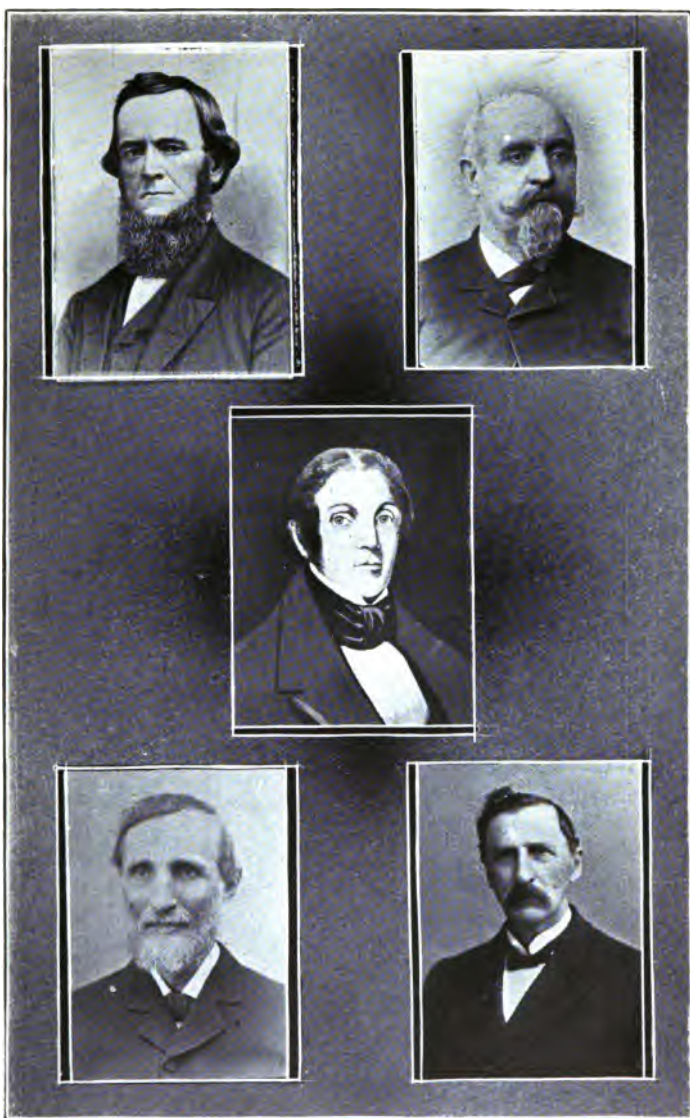
be appointed postmaster at Beaver, and showed him up in lurid colors.

The first page of the papers then was mostly given over to political intelligence, messages and documents, national and state, with not a line of what we now know as local news. The editorial page was given to columns of editorials at times, with such local happenings as accidents and death of prominent persons, but nowhere was there much of local news in social and business circles, but whole columns would be ablaze with political meetings, political contributions, etc.

In the issue of the paper April 9, 1833, the following notice appeared: "Married—On Thursday evening 18th of April 1833, by Rev. W. Maclean, William Henry editor of the 'Argus,' to Miss Eliza S. Hamilton of Sharon, Beaver county" Appended to the notice was this: "In the absence of the editor, the printer's devil takes it upon himself to acknowledge, with the above marriage notice, the receipt of a splendid slice of wedding cake, for which he returns his thanks, and hopes that the parties may through life, fully enjoy the new world upon which they have entered."

August 9, 1833, the "Argus" was increased from five to six columns, with a new press and new type, and Mr. Henry stated that the paper was larger and contained a great deal more matter, than any other county paper in the State. January 28, 1835, the day of publication was changed from Friday to Wednesday.

In beginning another volume, January 16, 1839, Mr. Henry said: "It has been our aim to endeavor to strengthen and maintain the moral and political character of the county, to guard her interests and assert her rights at all times fearlessly and faithfully." Owing to the delinquencies of many subscribers he added that he had "suffered embarrassments and perplexities" which had compelled him to continue, as he had done eight years



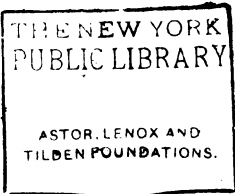
WM. HENRY

A. G. HENRY

THOMAS HENRY

M. WEYAND

J. WEYAND





previous, "to act as editor, compositor, pressman and devil."

The paper came out in a bright new dress June 3, 1840, making a very handsome appearance, and the editor stated that he would enlarge the paper if two hundred or three hundred more names were added to the subscription list. "But," he said, "let us elect General Harrison, make times better, enable men to meet their engagements promptly, and then we shall be able to present an appearance at least equal to any of our contemporaries."

The name of the paper was changed to the "Beaver Argus" August 2, 1843, and it was enlarged to seven columns to a page. The paper on which it was printed was made by Archibald Robertson at his mill in Brighton, and it was of excellent quality. The enlarged paper presented a nice and neat appearance and was full of good reading matter. In changing the name of the paper, the editor said: "We have long been disposed to drop the 'Western' part of our head and make it more local and appropriate to our position; for it is a disputed question whether we are in the West or in the East, the Armory Commissioners placing us precisely on the dividing line of these geographical divisions. So far as the paper is known abroad it is the 'Beaver Argus,' and as we go for Beaver first before all the West or all the world, all the Beavers will doubtless agree that it is a more appropriate title."

April 19, 1848, the paper appeared in a new outfit of type, smaller in size than that before used, to enable the editor to give more reading. In the next year, December 8, announcement was made that arrangements were completed for receiving news by telegraph, doubtless the first in the history of the papers in the county.

June 26, 1850, Albert G. Henry, brother of William Henry, became associated with him in the control of the

paper, but no change was made in its management or policy.

Albert Gallatin Henry was born in Beaver November 3, 1828. After attending the public schools and Beaver Academy, he entered the "Argus" office as an apprentice. When he sold out his interest to Jacob Weyand in 1854, he engaged in the mercantile business in Pittsburg. In 1855 he went to Davenport, Iowa, where he remained until 1858, and then returned to Beaver and opened a store. In 1866 he went to Kittanning, Pa., and bought the "Armstrong Democrat," and changed its name to the "Armstrong Republican." In 1882 he took his son W. M. Henry into partnership, and then went to Washington, D. C., where he was appointed to a position in the Pension office. In 1889 he returned to Kittanning and resumed the management of his paper, where he remained until his death in 1897. During his active career he was frequently urged to be a candidate for Congress but he declined. He was always ready and willing to help others, but refused to enter into any contest for himself.

Announcement was made July 24 of the same year, in the columns of the paper, that Michael Weyand was its agent in Lawrence and adjoining counties, authorized to receive subscriptions, etc.

November 19, 1851, William Henry disposed of his interest in the "Argus" to Michael Weyand. In referring to the change Mr. Henry among other things said of Mr. Weyand that he "is known here as a young gentleman of intelligence, integrity and industry—an excellent practical printer, who I have every confidence will prove acceptable to the community. He will be associated with A. G. Henry in the management of the office." Mr. Henry reviewed his work, stating that he had been connected with the office as a boy and man for 27 years lacking a month, and for 22 1-2 years as editor.

During the editorship of Mr. Henry, there were some printers who are pleasantly remembered by old newspaper men and citizens. John Truesdale, a faithful and efficient printer afterwards was associated with the "Iowa State Register." Matthew Light and David Light, who also worked for Mr. Weyand, both died of consumption in early manhood. Michael Weyand was apprentice and journeyman under Mr. Henry, and when he got into the business for himself, frequently helped at the case, and set his editorials in type without writing them. Other printers were Benjamin Churchill and Joseph Wilson, and doubtless some others whose names cannot now be recalled. Among the apprentices with Mr. Weyand was James (Kit) Carson, who was killed in the Battle of the Wilderness in the Civil War. Another was Joseph L. Anderson, who afterwards was foreman of the "Radical" under Col. Quay. The best known printer of the day perhaps, was John B. Early, who was foreman for both Mr. Henry and Mr. Weyand.

In the days when Mr. Henry was in the height of his work, Beaver was a greatly different place from that of today. With a population of about 300, there were 7 or 8 licensed hotels, with breweries, etc., that afforded liquid refreshment to all comers. Militia trainings were great features, and "review day" was the day of all days at the county seat, bringing together hundreds of uniformed and non-uniformed people, to be inspected by gaily dressed officers, on richly caparisoned steeds. All the feuds of the year had to be settled with the fist on that day, and numerous were the scraps going on almost continuously. The venders of spruce beer, the hotel bars and the sellers of quarter sections of gingerbread, would reap a rich harvest by nightfall, and would be loaded down with the Spanish and Mexican quarters, and other coin of the realm. Because of its quietude outside of special times of excitement, the strict religious senti-

ment of heads of families, and the absence of the grosser haunts of wickedness and crime, the town came to be known as the "Saints' Rest."

In the issue of Nov. 26, 1851, Mr. Weyand addressed the readers of the "Argus" in a half column editorial, vigorous and hopeful, declaring fealty to the principles advocated by the "Argus," closing with the following words: "And now, kind friends, having thus formally introduced ourselves, 'we're at home' to all of you, in future, in the building heretofore occupied, where we hope to send the 'Argus' on its mission of duty with its wonted regularity; and by strict attention to business, and an earnest desire to serve you, we trust we shall merit your kind approval."

M. Weyand was born in Somerset, Pa., June 11, 1825, the son of Henry and Magdalena Weyand, both natives of Somerset county, Pa., and of German descent. When a year old his parents removed to Lawrence county, Pa. At the age of 12 years he entered the office of the New Castle, Pa., "Intelligencer" as an apprentice and served one year, and in the spring of 1838 entered the office of the "Western Argus," served 4 1-2 years as an apprentice, and afterward was a journeyman printer. Mr. Weyand was married to Amanda Somers November 1851, having 4 children, Henry S., Mrs. J. H. Wilson, David and Julia. He held the office of Prothonotary of Beaver county for six and one half years, one half year by appointment and six years by election. He was a Presidential Elector in 1884 and was appointed postmaster at Beaver in 1900. During his long career as a journalist, Mr. Weyand had many bitter and exciting controversies, but he always sought to avoid personalities where possible. He has been a life long Whig and Republican, and a protectionist of the Henry Clay school; he was inflexibly opposed to the extension of slavery, and

resisted the repeal of the Missouri Compromise and the introduction of slavery into Kansas and Nebraska with all his ability. He is a good speaker and one of the best writers ever on the press of Beaver county. Mr. Weyand is a member of the M. E. church.

July 27, 1853, the name of the paper was changed to the "Beaver County Argus." A. G. Henry retired from the firm June 28, 1854, and in an editorial said: "Our career as one of its editors has been short but pleasant, and friends for their many kindnesses will be held in grateful remembrance. Our successor, J. Weyand, brother of the senior is a young gentleman of energy and ability, and we doubt not will add much to the columns of the paper." Michael Weyand expressed regret at the retirement of Mr. Henry, in a pleasant editorial.

July 5, 1854, Jacob Weyand succeeded Mr. Henry and introduced himself to the readers of the "Argus" in an editorial marked by strength and candor, that stamped him as a young man of journalistic ability, closing it with these words: "In connection with the senior, we shall from time to time, present our views unreservedly, of those measures of national and state policy, which may be deemed of importance."

Jacob Weyand was born in Lawrence county, Pa., March 29, 1828. He worked on a farm until he attained his majority, attending school three months a year until he was fifteen years of age, after which he attended school in Beaver for a short time. He disposed of his interest in the "Argus" and bought the "Free Press" at Carrolton, O., in 1858, where he was when the Civil War broke out. He sold his paper, raised a company of volunteers, was elected its captain and was attached to the 126th O. V. I. He was twice wounded in battle and was a cool, courageous soldier. At the battle of Monocacy, Md., July 9, 1864, he was in command of his

regiment, and was publicly mentioned in the official report of the battle, for his courage and skill. For his gallant services he was recommended to the Secretary of War for brevet promotions as Major and Lieutenant Colonel. He was married July 1857 to Victoria, daughter of the late Dr. Milo Adams, for many years a leading physician in the county. They had seven children, four of whom are living: Emma, wife of Harry W. Reeves, Beaver Falls; Edwin S., an attorney at Beaver; Blanche, stamp clerk in the Beaver Falls postoffice, and Paul, a minister in the M. E. church. He was married a second time to Miss Mary Cooke, daughter of Major J. M. Cooke, late of Rochester, Pa. Col. Weyand was a good business man.

When the McCreery bank failed in 1883, he was selected as assignee, and settled the complicated business of that institution to the satisfaction of all parties interested. He is a member of the M. E. church. He was a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature for two terms, 1893 and 1895, and during the latter term was a member of the Ways and Means Committee. He introduced and had passed the first bill giving an appropriation to the Beaver Valley General Hospital of New Brighton.

Jacob Weyand retired from the "Argus" December 16, 1857, with the following editorial announcement: "Having disposed of my interest in the 'Argus' office to my brother, the senior partner, I now take my leave of those who have been kind enough for a series of years, to extend their patronage to the firm. The business relations between ourself and patrons have been of the most agreeable character, and it is to be hoped that their uniform kindness and generous support will long be cherished." The "Argus" continued under the control of Michael Weyand until December 1859, when he re-

tired, and was never again connected with the paper, selling the establishment to Samuel Davenport, who changed the name again to the "Beaver Argus." Mr. Davenport was the second president of Beaver College and Musical Institute, serving for one and one half years. After the Civil War he was for some time Assessor of Internal Revenue. Later he moved to Indiana, Pa., where he died. Mr. Davenport retired from the "Argus" December 25, 1861, and closed his work with a very appropriate editorial, in which he said: "The intercourse between ourselves and our patrons has been of the most pleasant kind and he has not the recollection of having had a single difficulty with any one since he entered the office." Mr. Davenport was regarded by many associated with him, as the most scholarly man that has occupied the editorial chair in Beaver county, but being more inclined to ease than a strenuous life, he failed to impress his scholarship and learning on the journalism of his day, as he might easily have done.

Thomas C. Nicholson, a young man of fine ability, assumed charge of the "Argus" January 1, 1862. He was the son of Thomas and Rebecca Stewart Nicholson, his father a prominent man in the county, the first Superintendent of the schools of the county, a member of the Legislature and Cashier of the State Treasury for a number of years. Thomas C. Nicholson studied law in Beaver, served as a member of the 140th Penna. Volunteers, later went to Kansas, where in August 1868, he was admitted by the District Court of Junction City, Kas., to practice in the courts of that State. Later he lived at Altoona, Pa.

Upon taking charge of the paper, Mr. Nicholson addressed the patrons of the paper in the following editorial: "Being reared and educated in your midst, it is hoped this fact will inspire a reasonable degree of confi-

dence that the interests peculiar to our native place will be neither overlooked nor forgotten. For this purpose constant attention will be paid to everything calculated to advance the local interests, and develop the resources of Beaver county."

The publishers were T. C. Nicholson & Co.

In an editorial in the paper September 17, 1862, the following appeared: "The editor of this paper, T. C. Nicholson, enlisted in Capt. Darragh's company of three years' men and is now with his regiment. The acting editors, Rutan and Anderson, both volunteered under the late call of the Governor, and left for Harrisburg on Monday. We are therefore left without sufficient force to carry on the paper properly. We hope our readers will bear with us for a short time, until they return. We will try and do the best we can under the circumstances—Angels could do no more. The country seems to require all our able bodied men, and the next call may leave the 'Argus' without even the 'devil.'"

The emergency men under Capt. Rutan, under the Governor's call to defend Pennsylvania, returned home the latter part of September.

February 11, 1863, De Lorma Imbrie assumed control of the "Argus" as editor and proprietor. In his salutatory he announced: "The 'Argus' will, as it has heretofore done, sustain to the utmost of its power, the principles laid down by the founders of our government; and so long as our present Chief Magistrate shall be faithful to those principles, we shall continue to give him our unqualified support."

De Lorma Imbrie was born in Big Beaver township March 4, 1824; was educated in the country schools and Darlington Academy; taught school in Darlington, Brighton and Wilmington; was married at the latter place to Miss Margaret Carman October 27, 1851. He then took up his residence in Beaver where he studied



law and was admitted to the bar November 25, 1853. He was a conspicuous figure in politics; was a member of the Legislature 1856-57-58, and of the Senate in 1859. During the last seven years of his life, he was employed in the Auditor General's office at Harrisburg, where he died November 6, 1888. He had five children: Carman; Nannie B., wife of Rev. W. S. McClure; Mary E., wife of W. H. S. Thomson, Esq., a prominent attorney of Beaver, now of Pittsburg; Lilian Fra, and Edith.

In the issue of August 31, 1864, Mr. Imbrie said: "We are compelled to issue a half sheet this week. John Tallon one of our hands, volunteered last week, and we are left without sufficient force to issue a full sheet."

November 2, 1864, Mr. Imbrie announced his retirement from the "Argus," and the next issue November 9, D. W. Scott Jr., took charge of the business and editorial management of the paper. Mr. Scott had been a student at Beaver Academy and subsequently of Jefferson College, in which he was graduated, and intended to enter the ministry, but on account of ill health ceased his theological studies and entered upon the work of editing the paper. At the close of the year he sold his interests in the paper, and died of consumption April 6, 1865, in Hopewell township.

January 4, 1865, M. S. Quay and J. S. Rutan bought the paper, assumed the management, and conducted it together until October 18, 1865, when Mr. Rutan announced that he had purchased Mr. Quay's interest, and would thereafter conduct it as sole editor and proprietor.

This continued until November 22, 1865, when J. S. Rutan & Co. were given as editors and proprietors, J. L. Anderson being the other member of the company. This continued until July 11, 1866, when Jacob Weyand purchased the outfit, and took charge of it as editor and proprietor, without any editorial flourish, but with a mere mention of the fact.

April 3, 1867, the paper was fitted out with a new dress of type, and December 16, 1868, it appeared in a still more beautiful dress, and the office was furnished with a Cottrell & Babcock power cylinder press. January 8, 1873, Mr. Weyand disposed of an interest in the paper to Robert L. Treiber of Beaver, a printer who learned his trade in the office, the firm name being Weyand & Treiber. September 17 of the same year, the "Argus" was consolidated with the "Beaver Radical," under the name of the "Argus and Radical."

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### THE BEAVER RADICAL.

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In November 1868, Matthew S. Quay established the "Radical" in Beaver, in opposition to the "Argus," then owned and conducted by Col. Jacob Weyand. The paper was started without any flourish, and with no regular list of subscribers. It is said that at a meeting with a number of his political friends Colonel Quay announced that he purposed starting a paper, and that substantial assistance, as well as encouragement, was given to the enterprise, and what the list of patrons lacked in numbers was made up fully in weight and ability.

It was doubtless one of the ablest country papers ever published in the State, and its columns were frequently graced with articles from some of the ablest writers in the country. It was positive and aggressive in politics, representing of course the views of the distinguished editor in all things, and making war on the enemies of those views. The existence of the two Republican papers, so at variance with each other, was injurious to the party, and led to much controversy and considerable

ill feeling, and the inevitable result followed, in the interest of political peace, in the consolidation of the two papers.

Matthew Stanley Quay was born at Dillsburg, York county, Pa., Sept. 30, 1833, the son of Rev. Anderson Beaton Quay, a prominent Presbyterian clergyman, the latter a son of Joseph Quay and Ascenath Anderson, who lived in the northern part of Chester county; the latter's father, Patrick Anderson, was a captain in the French and Indian War, and, on the breaking out of the Revolution was, along with Anthony Wayne, a member of the Chester county committee. He went into the service in 1776 as Captain of the first company in the Pennsylvania Musketry Battalion, and after the battle of Long Island, he commanded the battalion. In 1778 and 1779 he sat in the Pennsylvania Assembly, and his son, Isaac Anderson, represented that district in Congress from 1803 to 1807. Senator Quay's great-grandmother, Ann Beaton, was the daughter of Daniel Beaton, and the sister of Colonel John Beaton, who, during the Revolution, was most active in military affairs in Chester county.

Matthew S. Quay graduated from Jefferson College, Pennsylvania, in 1850, studied law with Penny & Sterrett, in Pittsburg, and was admitted to the bar of Beaver county in 1854. The following year he was appointed Prothonotary of the county, and was elected in 1856, and again in 1859. In 1861 he resigned his office to accept a lieutenancy in the Tenth Pennsylvania Reserves, and was subsequently made Assistant Commissary-General of the State, and with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Afterward he was appointed private secretary to Gov. Andrew G. Curtin, and, in August, 1862, was commissioned Colonel of the 134th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was mustered out, owing to ill health, December 7, 1862, but participated in the assault on

Marye's Heights, December 13, 1862, as a volunteer. He was subsequently appointed State Agent at Washington, but shortly afterward was recalled by the Legislature to fill the office of Military Secretary, created by that body; was private secretary to the Governor of Pennsylvania; was Major and Chief of Transportation and Telegraphs; was Military Secretary to the Governor of Pennsylvania, 1861-1865. He was elected to the Legislature in 1864, and again in 1865 and 1866. In the latter year he was secretary of the Republican State Committee, of which he was Chairman in 1878. In 1873-78 he was Secretary of the Commonwealth, resigning to accept the appointment of Recorder of Philadelphia. This office he resigned in January 1879, when he was again appointed Secretary of the Commonwealth, filling that post until October 1882, when he resigned. In November 1885, he was elected State Treasurer and resigned in September 1887.

He was elected a member of the Republican National Committee and chosen Chairman thereof and ex-officio Chairman of the Executive Committee when the committee organized in July 1888, and conducted the successful Presidential campaign of that year; was a delegate to the Republican National Convention of 1892; was Chairman of the Republican State Committee 1895-6; was a delegate to the Republican National Convention of 1896; was elected a member of the Republican National Committee and chosen a member of the Executive Committee in 1896; was a delegate to the Republican National Convention of 1900; was elected a member of the Republican National Committee of 1900; was elected to the United States Senate as a Republican, to succeed J. I. Mitchell, and took his seat March 4, 1887; was re-elected in 1893; in 1899 was defeated for re-election by a deadlock existing throughout the session of the Legislature; was appointed United States Senator by the Governor of Pennsylvania

to fill the vacancy caused by the failure of the Legislature to elect, but the appointment was not recognized by the Senate; on the day of his rejection by the Senate was nominated to succeed himself by the Republican State Convention of Pennsylvania, and was re-elected United States Senator January 15, 1901. He died at his home in Beaver, Pa., on Saturday May 28, 1904, at 2:48 p. m.

Senator Quay was married, in 1855, to Agnes Barclay, daughter of John Barclay, by his wife Elizabeth Shannon. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and were of Scotch-Irish descent. The children of this marriage, all of whom were born at Beaver, are Richard Roberts, Andrew Gregg Curtin, Mary Agnew, Coral, and Susan Willard.

In the year 1872, Hon. James S. Rutan purchased the paper from Col. Quay, and published it thereafter, Smith Curtis being the editor. Joseph L. Anderson was foreman of the "Radical" until April 1873, when he resigned and went to the "Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph" and was succeeded by Simeon Dinsmore.

Mr. Rutan was born in Carroll county, O., May 29, 1838, the son of Alexander A. Rutan, an influential farmer. His ancestors on his paternal side were French Huguenots, who settled in New Jersey, and on the maternal side were Scotch-Irish. He was educated at Richmond College, O., and at Beaver Academy and taught school for one year. He then studied law in the office of Col. Richard P. Roberts and was admitted to the Beaver bar in 1861. He engaged in practice in Beaver, where he continued until September 1861, when he entered the army as First Lieutenant of a company of the 101st Pa. Regiment and served until August 1862, when he resigned on account of ill health. Returning to Beaver he was elected District Attorney of Beaver county which he held for six years. In 1868 he was

chosen as the representative of the State, to carry the electoral count to the National Capital. In 1869 he was elected to the State Senate, and was President of that body in 1872. In 1876 was appointed Collector of the Port of Pittsburg, which he held four years. Soon after his retirement from the office was appointed United States Marshal for the western district of Pennsylvania. He was elected to the State Senate in Allegheny, Pa., in 1886, serving one term. Mr. Rutan was united in marriage with Cora, daughter of Rev. William Cox, D. D., a prominent member of the Pittsburg Conference M. E. Church, and died in Allegheny, Pa., June 18, 1892, and was buried at Beaver.

Joseph L. Anderson was born in Beaver and is a son of Joseph and Mary (Eakin) Anderson, farmers, of Scotch-Irish origin; attended the common schools and the Beaver Academy; entered the office of the "Argus" as apprentice and learned the trade, where he remained until he became a partner, and subsequently was foreman of the "Radical," was transcribing clerk in the Senate of the State in 1867; and after leaving the "Radical" was foreman of the "Chronicle-Telegraph." He was married in 1861 to Margaret Hall of Beaver county, and had three children, James Paul, Stanley, and Mary Olive.

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### ARGUS AND RADICAL.

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The journalistic contest between the two rival papers, the "Argus" and the "Radical," was continued from November 1868, to September 17, 1873, when the two papers were consolidated, taking the name of "Argus and Radical," published by the Beaver Printing Company,

with James S. Rutan as editor and Jacob Weyand business manager. The office was burned March 17, 1874, and resumed publication on the first of April, with a new outfit. It then became a vigorous exponent of the Republican party, and was regarded as the organ of the Stalwart wing of the party, and a devoted adherent of Col. Quay.

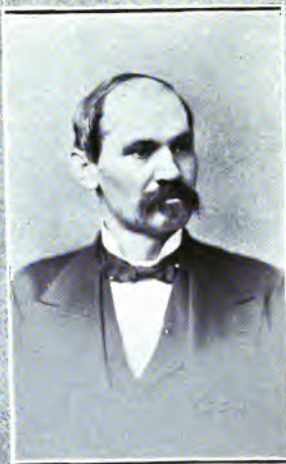
In 1879 Smith Curtis bought the interest of James S. Rutan in the paper and became its editor, and W. I. Reed bought Jacob Weyand's interest, and was business manager of the paper.

Smith Curtis was born in Sherburne, Chenango county, N. Y., Dec. 21, 1834. His parents were John and Elsie (Jones) Curtis, the former a native of New York and the latter of Connecticut. His father was a miller and a tanner, and was also engaged in the manufacture of boots and shoes. His family consisted of ten children, of whom Smith is the fifth. He attended common school in his native county until he was sixteen years old, worked in the mill and tannery and went to New York, where he clerked in a store two years; then returned to his native county to prepare for college. He attended an academy in Franklin county one year; then entered Hamilton College, New York, where he spent three years. He then entered Union College, Schenectady county, N. Y., and was graduated in 1858 with honor. He was a diligent and successful student and was frequently chosen as a representative of the college in literary contests. He received a prize for an essay while in Hamilton College. After his graduation he commenced the study of theology and spent one year at the seminary at Princeton, N. J. He then entered the Union Theological Seminary at New York, from which institution he was graduated in 1861. He then went to Toledo, Ohio. In 1861 he was ordained a minister, by the Congregational Association, of Ohio, at Columbus, to be

eligible to election as Chaplain for the 62d Regiment Ohio Vols. From there he went to Fostoria, in the same state, where he took charge of the Presbyterian church for three years. He then resigned and opened an academy there, which he continued two years, when he was appointed Chaplain of a regiment belonging to General Butler's command. The war soon closed, and he did not join his regiment. In 1862 he was elected Chaplain of the 62d Pennsylvania Volunteers, but was not permitted to serve. He came to Pennsylvania in 1865 and was married March 1, that year, to Isidore, daughter of Capt. Richard and Elizabeth (McCurdy) Calhoun. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Curtis, three of whom are now living: John Richard, Dora E., and Elizabeth M. Mr. Curtis was principal of the public school of Beaver borough in 1868 and 1869. He is an active member of the Republican party, and served as secretary of the county committee from 1866 till 1872. He was editor of the "Radical" after Senator Quay's retirement until the consolidation of the "Argus and Radical." He was then appointed to a position in the State Insurance Department Harrisburg, remaining there until December 1879.

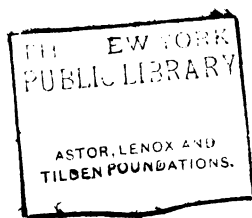
Wilkins Irwin Reed was born in Moon township, Beaver county, Pa., June 4, 1851, his parents being Thomas and Frances Irwin Reed, whose ancestors were among the earliest settlers of that part of Beaver county. He received his schooling in the country schools, and the public schools of Rochester, to which town the family moved. At the age of 16 he entered the office of the "Venango Republican," Oil City, Pa., the present "Oil City Derrick." He completed his apprenticeship here, a portion of which time was in the business department. He then went to Indianapolis, Ind., and engaged in the job printing business, soon returning to Pennsylvania, where he was managing editor of a paper for some





M. S. QUAY  
SMITH CURTIS

J. S. RUTAN  
HOWARD BLISS



months, thence returned to Beaver county in 1871, and became connected in a business capacity with the Beaver "Argus." He became manager of the business affairs of the "Argus and Radical" until he purchased an interest.

Curtis & Reed began the publication of the "Daily Argus" in May 1883, the second daily in the county, which was continued for thirteen years. September 1, 1885, Mr. Reed sold his interest in the paper to W. F. Bliss and brother Howard Bliss, and purchased a half interest in the "Clarion (Pa.) Democrat," the management of which he assumed, and remained in the paper until April 1, 1901, when he disposed of his interest to his partner, and immediately thereafter engaged in the wholesale and retail hardware and manufacturing business in Franklin, Pa.

The Bliss brothers were born in South Beaver township, the sons of Dr. Zadok and Rebecca McMillen Bliss. The father was a practicing physician in that township, and died there in 1875, while the mother is yet living at Beaver, in the ninetieth year of her age, and residing with her are her two daughters, the Misses Sue and Rebecca Bliss. Both Dr. and Mrs. Bliss were natives of South Beaver township, where their children were born.

W. F. Bliss was a teacher by profession, and upon retiring from the "Argus," he resumed his profession, which he had laid down to take up newspaper work. He was for some time principal of the Beaver public schools and a teacher in the high school. For two terms principal of the Rochester schools, and was the organizer and first principal of its high school. From Rochester he went to California, where he has been engaged in educational work since 1894, and since 1901 has been Professor of History in the State Normal School at San Diego. He is one of the staff contributors to the "California School Journal," and has prepared and pub-

lished a history of the early settlement of California. His wife is Miss Nellie Fowler formerly a teacher of Beaver.

When the Bliss brothers sold their interest in the "Argus and Radical," Howard Bliss remained with the paper for about ten years, when he withdrew to accept a position on the "Daily Star." Mr. Bliss remained as a writer on the "Star" until January 1, 1903, when he resigned to enter upon the duties of Sheriff of Beaver county, to which he was elected in November 1902. During the seventeen years he was engaged in newspaper work, he resided in Rochester, and in addition to his other duties, was special correspondent from Beaver county to the Pittsburg "Times" and "Leader." He served two terms as Assistant Burgess, and later one year as Burgess of Rochester; one term as a member of the school board; was twice a delegate to the Republican State Convention from Beaver county; and has at various times been a member of the Republican County Committee. He married Miss Lizzie J. Clark, of Pittsburg, and they have three sons, Wilber Agnew, principal of the Aliquippa public schools; Howard Clifford, clerk in the paymaster's department of the Rochester Tumbler Company, and Curtis Stewart, a student at the Beaver County Commercial College.

In 1890 the Bliss brothers sold their interest in the "Argus and Radical" to Capt. John E. Smith of Georgetown. During the five years that they were connected with the paper, a new brick printing office was erected, and the office was fitted out entire with new type, and the high standard of the paper was maintained. Upon the purchase of this interest by Mr. Smith, his son-in-law, T. S. Laughlin, became business manager of the paper for a few years, and then retired, Mr. Smith selling his holdings to his partner, Mr. Curtis, who has conducted it since, issuing only a weekly edition.

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DAILY X-RAY.

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On January 3, 1903, a charter was granted at Harrisburg, Pa., to the Radical Printing Company of Beaver, Pa., capital \$15,000; directors, D. A. Nelson, Joseph L. Holmes, R. S. Holt, Ira F. Mansfield, Smith Curtis, D. M. Twiford, Beaver; John H. Sturgeon, Beaver Falls; Hartford P. Brown, Rochester, and J. H. Hamilton, New Brighton. This company absorbed the "Argus and Radical" establishment, buying its plant, name and good will.

On Monday May 4, 1903, this company started a daily paper called "The Daily X-Ray," being Volume 1, Number 1, and the "Argus and Radical" was discontinued. The officers of the company were named in the paper as follows: President, Hartford P. Brown; Secretary, Milton J. Patterson; Treasurer, Joseph L. Holmes; Editor, Smith Curtis; Business Manager, F. L. Parker; Circulation Manager, J. H. Hamilton. From the initial number of the paper, the following extracts are taken, as indicating the reasons for the new paper's existence:

"With this issue 'The Daily X-Ray' makes its initial bow to the public. In one sense it is a new paper, being under a new management and new name, but in another, it is an evolution from the weekly 'Argus and Radical' whose lineal descent reaches, in unbroken succession, to the old 'Western Argus,' published in Beaver in 1818.

"'The Daily X-Ray' has no schemes to push, no friends to favor and no enemies to punish. It opens its columns to free discussion within reasonable limits. It wishes to treat all persons, all orders, all sects, all parties

and even all factions with impartial fairness. Let the facts be given. Truth will not suffer from error in open combat. Publicity is light; it is the 'X-Ray' that illuminates society's opaque substances, discovers evil doers, doing thus more efficient service as a protector of the people than even the sleuths of the law. Hail 'The X-Ray!' May her light be as beneficial as her rays are penetrating!"

It was issued as an evening paper, and was understood to be the representative of a new faction in the Republican party, whose object was to break up an alleged ring in the party, and carry out the principles enunciated in the editorial quoted. Its editorial columns were remarkable for their plain speaking and denunciation of some of the politicians, but the seed seemed to be sown on shallow and rocky soil, and bore no good fruit. Its end was seen from the beginning by practical newspaper men.

The "Daily X-Ray" was changed to a morning paper June 29, 1903, with the following at the head of its columns: "The 'Daily X-Ray' has been leased by the employees of the firm, and under their management will be issued each morning except Sunday." F. L. Parker was published as editor and business manager. The paper ceased publication with the issue of July 13, 1903, with but a little more than two months of troubled existence. A few months later Hartford P. Brown was appointed Receiver for the company, and it was sold at public auction March 26, 1904, the purchaser being Joseph L. Holmes Esq. In May 1904 Smith Curtis bought the plant from Mr. Holmes, and in it is published the "Argus and Radical," which Mr. Curtis revived when the "Daily X-Ray" failed.

Thus closes the record of a remarkable journalistic career in Beaver county.

## CHAPTER V.

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### THE WESTERN STAR.

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The "Western Star," the only Democratic paper in the county that has weathered the journalistic storms, and retains its name to the present time, was started December 15, 1843, by Washington Bigler and William Denlinger, both of whom came from the eastern part of the state, under the firm name of Bigler & Denlinger. The paper was a six column folio, and was printed in a row of old wooden buildings that stood at the south end of the Potter hotel, now the site of the Parkview hotel. It was removed in 1844 to a brick building where the Buchanan block now stands, and in 1845 to a brick building now known as the Merz building.

Mr. Bigler was a brother of the famous Bigler brothers, John and William, who were chosen Governor respectively of the States of California and Pennsylvania, on the same day in 1851. He retired from the firm January 7, 1846.

In September of the same year, Mr. Denlinger temporarily retired from the paper, and was succeeded by Major John Irons of the "Fayette Genius of Liberty," Uniontown, Pa., who came to his new duties with considerable experience and reputation as a newspaper man. The paper appeared in a new dress and enlarged form.

Major Irons remained a few months on the paper, and then returned to the "Genius of Liberty," where he died June 30, 1850. Mr. Denlinger then returned to the "Star." He had some amusing experiences during his career as editor. He had a subscriber out in Brighton township whose constant boast was, that he always supported the public press, even if he never paid it a cent. He was far in arrears with Mr. Denlinger, and one day brought in a couple of bushels of potatoes, when potatoes were hardly worth throwing away, and had them credited to his account; but before he left town, he managed to borrow enough money from Mr. Denlinger to cover the potatoes two or three times over. Other editors had an intimate monetary acquaintance with the same old subscriber. On the incoming of the Polk administration in 1845, a well known Democrat was an applicant for the Beaver postoffice, and shortly after his papers had been filed at Washington, some of the wags in his own party, got up and forwarded to the old gentleman a bogus commission, and forthwith he commenced fitting up in elaborate style, suitable quarters for the postoffice. Editor Denlinger who boarded with him, kindly suggested that he had better not be in too much of a hurry, as there might be some humbug in the commission he had received, whereupon the irate old gentleman instantly retorted: "Pay me that board bill you owe me, and there'll be no humbug in that."

On the seventh of January 1848, Dr. R. B. Barker, formerly of the "Beaver River Gazette," purchased a half interest in the paper and became the senior editor. How long he remained is not known, but it was certainly not a very long time, perhaps a few months. Associated with him was P. B. Conn, a practical printer, who was the business manager of the paper. He was a well known printer, a Beaver county man, and in later years was one of the most prominent newspaper men in



Steubenville, O., known all over this section of country, a man of ability and force.

When Dr. Barker assumed the editorship of the "Star," he and William Henry of the "Argus," made the most profound editorial bows to each other, and each invoked an era of peace and good will between the papers; but they were soon industriously sharpening their political goose quill pens, and in a few weeks the political war began and the editorial combat was on. Whole column editorials were written and published, and personalities took the place of good will. That is, such a condition existed editorially. The writing ability of the two editors made it certain that the combat would be a lively one, especially as both were full of fight and always ready for the fray, and that the subjects discussed would be handled skilfully, and with energy and ability. These two gentlemen, on opposite sides of the political fence, were among the ablest of the editors of the county, and have not been excelled by any others in their style of presenting their views to the people. Both were aggressive, both had political chips on their shoulders for the other fellow to knock off at his peril, and both were graceful, correct and able writers, and both did credit to the journalism of the county. But Dr. Barker was on the losing side, and soon retired, never again to grace the editorial chair.

Mr. Conn withdrew from the paper as associate, December 7, 1849, and was succeeded by D. P. Work. Mr. Work was formerly of the "Argus," a well known newspaper man of the county, and had been in business the early part of the year, in a literary depot, with a Mr. Holmes, on Third street Pittsburg. Nothing of interest is known of his work on the paper, or the impress he made on his party, though he remained on it until March 17, 1852, when he gave way to Samuel Gaither of Somerset county, Pa. The "Star" was then conducted by Mr.

Gaither and Mr. Denlinger, under the firm name of Gaither and Denlinger. Mr. Denlinger was a candidate for Prothonotary on the Democratic ticket in 1851, and was defeated by a few votes.

September 8, 1852, Mr. Denlinger finally withdrew from the "Star," and was succeeded by H. C. Connelly. The "Argus" referred editorially to the change as follows: "Mr. Denlinger has been connected with the 'Star' for a number of years, and we have no hesitation in saying that he now retires with the best wishes of its patrons. Mr. Connelly is a young man, a practical printer, who will doubtless make himself acceptable to the Democracy." Mr. Denlinger was appointed route agent in July 1853, and was on duty between Pittsburg and Harrisburg.

In September 1853, R. Gregor McGregor, of North Sewickley township, purchased Mr. Gaither's interest in the paper, and became associated with Mr. Connelly in its management. In November of the same year, the "Star" came out in a new dress of type, with a new head, making it much more attractive in appearance. In January 1855, Mr. Connelly retired, leaving the entire management of the paper in the hands of Mr. McGregor. Mr. Connelly, who came to Beaver county from Somerset county, Pa., upon his retirement went west, and in 1857, was the editor of the "Rock Islander" in Illinois.

Robert Gregor McGregor was born June 17, 1830, at Hazel Dell, then in North Sewickley township, Beaver county, now in Wayne township, Lawrence county, Pa. His father Donald McGregor, was a native of Scotland, his mother Mary Bennett. Donald McGregor, was a second cousin of Rob Roy and claimed a descent from Gregor, or Gregorius, third son of Alpin, King of Scots, who flourished about 787, of the Clan Alpin, one of the most ancient Clans of the Scottish Highlands. After obtaining a good common school education he attended



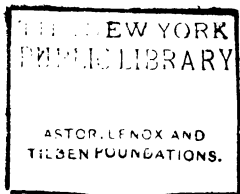
THOMP BURTON

R. S. KENNEDY

R. GREGOR MCGREGOR

J. E. MCCLURE

THEO LAMPERT



the Beaver Academy several terms, and adopted teaching as his profession. His first term of school was taught in North Sewickley township in the winter of 1847-48. This he followed in New Sewickley and adjoining townships nearly all his life, a few years being spent in newspaper work and as a mail agent. He was a very successful teacher and possessed intelligence of the highest order. In 1854 he was united in marriage to Miss Rebecca A. F. Randolph of Achor, O., a young lady of culture and refinement, a writer of considerable merit. She died in a few years leaving two children, Donald R. McGregor, and Mary E., wife of I. J. McCready of Beaver Falls, Pa. From 1857 to 1861 Mr. McGregor was mail agent on the Allegheny Valley Railroad. In 1864 and 1865 he was an editorial writer on the "Star," with Samuel K. Alexander. From 1869 to 1872 was news and editorial writer on the New Castle "Gazette," and in 1872 was employed as editorial writer on the "Conservative," with E. B. Williams, and during the presidential campaign of 1880 was editorial writer on the "Star." In the course of this campaign he made a number of speeches, and was a fluent and logical speaker. Though a good writer and speaker, his greatest pride was in his work as a teacher. After his last formal connection with a paper in 1880, he was a frequent contributor to the local press, doing a good deal of work of that kind for the Beaver "Star" and the "Beaver Valley News" of New Brighton, Pa. He died January 10, 1902.

Mr. McGregor was an unusually fine correspondent, reporting the happenings in the districts where he taught, and his communications were gladly received and published. He had the happy faculty of telling what was going on in such a way as not to offend, though the facts were not always palatable to the person or persons referred to. He had a great many rich experiences. While teaching in one of the townships, he offered to

send contributions to the "Beaver Valley News," and generally was heard from once a week. On one occasion he came to the office with some good notes, and full of fun over the help he received, or rather that was offered. He said to some of the people, I am going to send the news of the neighborhood to the "News" and I want you to help me. One individual eagerly offered his services, with the remark, "I will help you—there are some fellows in this township that I want to 'whack.'" That was his idea of furnishing news to the papers, and strange to say, it is the idea of a great many people now, and the prolific source of much of the sensational newspaper reading of today.

In the early part of November 1857, the "Star" was suspended for a short time, the editor stating, "That as soon as some needful collections can be made, it will again shine out bright and blazing as in the days of yore." But the latter part of the same month, the "needful collections" were received and the paper again appeared, and shone with all the effulgence and glory of the past. In resuming, the announcement was made that N. C. Barclay would be publisher, and the editorial management was to depend upon McGregor and Barclay.

In this period Michael Weyand was editor of the "Argus," young and full of fire and snap, and the bright pens of Weyand and McGregor were wont to get unusually sharp, and it was a duel of words that made glad the hearts of the partisans. Both were rough and ready, minute men in the journalistic battles, and each had a style that was catchy and took with the public. Mr. Weyand was a worthy successor of his preceptor, William Henry, and he was as vigilant in watching his opponents, and as ready to pounce upon them, as ever was Mr. Henry. This required "Uncle Bob," as everybody called Mr. McGregor, to be constantly on his guard.

Mr. McGregor retired from the paper in the latter

part of 1857 or in 1858, the exact time not being known, and A. C. Barclay became a member of the firm, father and son now being in full control of the paper. While they were in possession, Thursday June 30, 1861, the office of the "Star" was entered, the press was taken apart and the arms carried away, with several cases of type, and dumped into the Ohio river. Nearly all the type, and the parts of the press, were recovered, so that not much loss was sustained. It was a dastardly outrage, condemned by almost all persons, and the "Argus" editorially denounced it severely. July 10, 1861, A. C. and N. C. Barclay disposed of their interest in the paper.

The establishment then fell into the hands of O. S. Long, late professor in the Beaver Seminary and Musical Institute of Beaver, as editor, and associated with him was William Pusey for a short time. The latter was from Allegheny, Pa., in attendance at the Institute, who later studied law and afterward died in Pittsburg. Mr. Long volunteered under the call of Governor Curtin for men to defend the State from invasion in September 1862, and when the emergency was over, he returned to his editorial work, where he remained until August 1864, when he leased the outfit to R. Gregor McGregor and Samuel K. Alexander. In 1865 Mr. Long sold the paper to James H. Odell. He went to Wheeling, W. Va., where he was engaged in newspaper work.

Mr. Long gave his support to the "Union" movement in politics in the county, and was very severely judged by his political associates. He was handled without gloves, and so mercilessly condemned, that he was compelled to speak in his own defence.

In the issue of October 11, 1861, Mr. Long had a column editorial on his treatment by his party associates, from which these extracts are taken: "Now that the election is over and no man dare charge that the statements we are about to make are made for political effect;

we crave the indulgence of our readers for a few remarks concerning our paper. During the three months in which we have had the management of the 'Western Star,' we have honestly and faithfully striven to do that which was thought to be to be right and our duty to the cause of our country. From the date of the first issue we have wedded our fortunes to our country's flag resolved to stand or fall with it. And yet, strange as it may seem, here in the old loyal Keystone State, in the intelligent county of Beaver, we have from the first met with an opposition which has been as causeless as it was unexpected, and as fierce, unrelenting and dishonorable in its nature as it has been without just cause. No sooner had we proclaimed ourselves in favor of supporting the government and using our best endeavors to crush out the rebellion which threatens the destruction of our free government, than we were assailed by villifiers and secret enemies laboring to induce men to take their names from our subscription list. Before we had espoused the cause of the Union movement, before we had said a word in opposition to party nominations, these assassins were at work and men who were under their influence came to our office and withdrew their support avowing that they did so because we were supporting the government and in favor of prosecuting the war. \* \* And thus it went on until the reason that we were humbly laboring for the support of the government—no other cause under Heaven—the cry was raised that the 'Star' was 'not Democratic' and thus a few more men who didn't know the first principle of Democracy, but worshipped only the name, were also drawn off. \* \* \* Our own personal and pecuniary interests so far as the ownership of the 'Star' is concerned, are of little value. We regard the cause of our country as infinitely superior to any consideration of that kind, and we are convinced that the real object of those who are defaming us, is to



injure the cause of the Federal Union, and by creating opposition to the war in the North, afford 'aid and comfort' to the enemy. We do not say that all who have discontinued the 'Star' have done so through hostility to the government. By no means. Some honorable and loyal Democrats have been compelled to stop the paper on account of the hard times and many have been deceived by false reports, but we do mean to say, and we affirm it boldly, that the men who have been most busy in denouncing the 'Star' have done so out of hatred of the government and the national cause. It is not out of any personal difficulty, for whoever supports the government and denounces secession is made the object of their spleen. It is for this reason that we have alluded to these things. But the 'Star' is by no means broken down, notwithstanding all reports to the contrary; our subscription list is higher and better in every respect than when we received it from our predecessors and it is still rapidly increasing. We rely upon the loyal people of Beaver county for support, and we have not been, nor will ever be, disappointed."

James H. Odell, a practical printer, who had just returned home from service in the Union Army, took charge of the plant in 1865, and changed the name to the "Local." Mr. Odell was an aggressive writer, very severe on political friend and foe alike, when not in accord with his views, and in consequence he was continually in trouble, and kept his party in turmoil, when his political enemies were not at fever heat over his utterances. His foreman was a printer named O. P. Wharton, who conducted a paper for a short time dated in New Brighton. He was a well read man, and after leaving Beaver went to Ohio, and at one time was editor of a Sandusky paper.

In 1867 Odell was prosecuted for libel by Elijah Barnes, former Treasurer of the county. The Grand

Jury found a true bill against him, and on November 14, 1867, the case was called in court, Judge Acheson on the bench. A jury composed of Silas Moore, J. W. Smith, John Scott, Valentine Sohn, William Murphy, William Shallenberger, Michael Killinger, Samuel Blair, William Springer, James H. Springer, Nathan McPherson, and William Laughlin tried the case. Mr. Odell plead not guilty and was defended by Samuel B. Wilson Esq. The case went to the jury at 12 o'clock noon, and 2:15 o'clock the same day, returned a verdict of guilty. The sentence of the court was: "Pay a fine of \$200 to the Commonwealth, costs of prosecution, and undergo an imprisonment in the jail of the county for 60 days, and stand committed until this sentence is complied with." Mr. Odell edited and conducted the paper from his cell until the expiration of his sentence, and made it warm for his enemies. On the day of his release, the Democrats of the county turned out in crowds and had a grand jubilee, carrying the editor on their shoulders from the jail to his home.

While Odell was in jail, he was prosecuted for libel by John Caughey, then Prothonotary of the county, and the papers were served on him through the bars of the main door of the corridor. Some merriment was created at the time by Odell asking the officer if he would have to give bail or go to jail. The officer thought neither course would be necessary. This case was settled out of court. December 1868 the paper came out in a handsome new dress, and was enlarged.

In December 1868, Thomp Burton sold the material of the "Champion" of New Castle, a paper which he started in December 1867, to J. H. Odell in part payment for the Beaver "Local," and Mr. Burton took possession in the spring of 1869. With the "Champion" outfit, Mr. Odell went to Youngstown, O., and in June 1869, started the "Vindicator." Mr. Odell married a daughter of Hugh

B. Anderson, of Beaver, and they had two boys. The establishing of the "Vindicator" opened a fine field for him, but he was unable to bear the burden and he lost the property, after which he moved to Columbus, O., where he followed his trade of printer, in which he was superior. His wife died soon after they moved there, and later both their boys died, leaving him alone in the world. He then drifted from place to place as a tramp printer. In the latter part of the seventies he fell out of a window in Minneapolis and spent a winter in the hospital with a broken leg, and in the summer death terminated his wanderings and suffering.

Among the apprentices in Odell's office, was Isaac N. Jones, who became one of the best known printers in the county. He was born in Pittsburg in 1849, his parents dying in 1854, and he was reared on a farm in Butler county; educated in the public schools; moved to Rochester Pa., in 1867 and was apprenticed to Mr. Odell, where he remained until 1869 when he went to Youngstown, O., and completed his trade. He returned to Beaver county in 1872 and worked on the "Beaver County Press" New Brighton, thence went to Pittsburg and worked on several of the dailies there, thence to Philadelphia where he was on the "Public Ledger" for about 11 years. The advent of type setting machines drove him back to Pittsburg, and later to Beaver county, where he spent about two years on the "Beaver Valley News," setting the type for the "News" editor's history of New Brighton in 1899. In 1901 he went to Youngstown, O., where he has since been employed in the job department of the "Telegram."

Thomp Burton was born at Sharon Springs, N. Y., April 13, 1844, his parents moving to Moravia, Lawrence county, Pa., in 1858, was at work on the New York Central R. R. one year, returning home in August 1861, when he enlisted as a private in Co. E, 100th Regt. Pa. Volunteers. He was with the famous old Roundheads in

every march, skirmish and battle it was engaged in, until taken down with pneumonia in Kentucky in May 1863, being discharged at Camp Denison, O., two months later. At the battle of South Mountain where the color bearer was shot, he took the regimental colors, carrying them during the remainder of his service. After leaving the army he took turns at railroading until the winter of 1865-6 when he was appointed special agent of the Post-office Department, doing some lively work in the South.

Mr. Burton has had a more varied experience in newspaper work, than any writer ever in Beaver county, and we give it in full, though necessarily brief. The frequent changes he made, were caused by ill health usually, as he was in bad condition most of his life after leaving the army. On his return from the South he wrote his first correspondence to the "New Castle (Pa.) Gazette," and resigned his postoffice position to go on the staff of the "Constitutional Union" of Washington. In the summer of 1866 he began his experience as an editor and publisher, he and W. S. Black purchasing the "New Castle Gazette." Mr. Burton withdrew in November 1867, and started the "Champion" December 5th, which lived a year, when he sold the material to J. H. Odell in part payment for the Beaver "Local," which he sold in the fall of 1869 to W. H. Schwartz. While in Beaver the first child was born to Mr. and Mrs. Burton, at the home of her parents in Moravia. He must have been born to the profession, for before he was 25 years old he was managing editor of the "Brooklyn Eagle" and at 31—became managing editor of the "New York World," which position he now holds. Mr. Burton next went to Pittsburgh as city editor and business manager of the "Daily Republic," in a few months resigned to go with the "Republican," later merged into the "Inter Ocean," of Chicago.

The next summer he went to Nebraska and took up a

soldier's claim to government land near Grand Island. Returning in 1875, he bought the "New Era" of New Castle, changing the name to the "Paragraph," which he sold to Geo. W. Penn and E. E. Stone; later he was city editor of the "New Castle Courant," from which he resigned to start the "National Greenback," and later started the "National Greenback" at Erie.

In 1877 he was city editor of the "Guardian" New Castle, and was next invited to become the city editor and advertising manager of the "Beaver Valley News," and later became city editor and business manager of the "Indianapolis Sun;" after which he accepted a position on the Youngstown "Daily and Weekly News;" after 18 months he started the first Sunday paper between Pittsburgh and Cleveland, the "Youngstown Sunday Morning," which came out in April 1882. He sold it to H. L. Preston, and the next winter was city editor of the "Youngstown Vindicator," which he resigned to start the "Youngstown Saturday Night," and this he sold in 1886 and later purchased an interest in "Brick Pomeroy's Democrat," of New York City, from which he withdrew in 1887, and returned to Youngstown, O., where he accepted a position on the daily paper published by the "Saturday Night" plant; he took charge of the "South-West," a trade paper in Cincinnati, in 1888, and made a great success of it.

During the next four years he spent fully half his time in hospitals, but in 1896, though broken in health, he again entered newspaper work and started the "Buckeye Record" in Youngstown, O., which he conducted until after the election, and then retired from newspaper and all other work, making his home at Youngstown. In April 1904, Governor Herrick honored him with the appointment of a member of the Ohio Penitentiary Board of Managers for five years, which requires but three days each month at the capital.

But little is known of Schwartz, who conducted the paper for a short time, when it was discontinued and sold at Constable's sale.

On the tenth of May 1871, E. B. Williams secured the material of the office, and changing the name began the publication of the "Conservative," which he conducted alone until January 1873, when John Bigger of Hanover township, bought the one half interest, and in August 1873, bought the entire interest, Mr. Williams retiring. The latter was one of the most unique characters ever in the newspaper business in Beaver county. It is related of him that he would go to sleep in his "den," and while in that condition some practical jokers would slip sensational articles in his pocket. When the printers needed "copy" they would go to the pocket of the editor, and get the "copy" there deposited and print it. Then Rome would howl, and the town be convulsed with excitement, but the editor's equanimity was not disturbed in the least.

Mr. Bigger was a well known resident of the county, of one of its best known families. He published the paper until January 1874, when it was discontinued. A few years later he went west where he died.

The material of the paper passed into the hands of Robert L. Treiber a Beaver printer. He associated with him M. J. White, and the name of the paper was changed to the "Democrat." After a few months Mr. White retired and Mr. Treiber continued publication until October 1876, when the plant was sold at Sheriff's sale and was bought in by John J. Wickham. Shortly after the sale John S. Hoopes of New Brighton, secured the material and began publishing the "Beaver County Post." Mr. Hoopes was the son of the well known banker, R. E. Hoopes of New Brighton, and for years conducted a job printing office in that place, doing a good

business in fine work. In a short time it passed into the control of James M. Phillis and M. J. White, both Beaver printers, and was soon discontinued.

On October 5, 1877, Dr. R. S. Kennedy took up the work laid down by the publishers of the "Beaver County Post," and began the publication of the "Commoner."

Mr. Kennedy was born in Independence township, Beaver county, Pa., April 7, 1841. On the paternal side his grandfather was of Irish descent, and his grandmother whose maiden name was Inman, was Scotch; on the maternal side his grandfather Shannon was of Irish descent and his grandmother Thomson was Scotch, all of whom and some earlier ancestors, being born in America. The Doctor is the son of William A. and Rosa Kennedy, was educated in the common schools and Beaver Academy, later attended the University of Michigan and was graduated at the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia March 1866. He was married April 1874 to Mary A. Patton, a daughter of David Patton, Esq., who at that time resided at New Sheffield in Beaver county. He practiced medicine for about ten years in Independence and Hopewell townships, in 1874 was one of the Democratic nominees for Assembly, Joseph Graff of Beaver Falls, being the other. He afterwards resided for two or three years in New Brighton, but has lived since 1879 in Beaver, where he is now practicing his profession. Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy have two children, Dr. Oliver M. Kennedy a practicing dentist of Beaver, and Mrs. George I. Park of Beaver.

The name "Commoner" was never entirely satisfactory to Mr. Kennedy, and at the end of two years he dropped it and went back to the name associated with the traditions of his childhood, calling it the "Star." The office was enlarged, and new type and presses added. It was then published in a frame building near the corner

of Third and Beaver streets, with the press room near the end of the same lot. In 1881 he erected a brick building on Turnpike street, on the rear of the lot now occupied by Martsolf's drug store, and the Democratic organ for the first time had a home of its own.

The expenses of the paper were heavy, which with the inexperience of the new editor, made the venture a doubtful one, but the zealous support of the Democrats, and the encouragement given by a number of liberal Republicans, enabled him to weather the storm. He soon learned that his field was restricted to the county, that it was already pretty well occupied, and to succeed he must make some improvements and adopt the best methods. Acting on the suggestion of a friend of experience, he ventured on the trial of miscellany and news in the form of stereotype plates, in the use of which the "Star" was the pioneer in the county. The movement called forth various comments from local contemporaries, one of them denominating it "boiler plate," while other sarcastic remarks were made, but the innovation was a success, and was soon in use in nearly all the offices.

In regard to the editorial policy of the paper during his control, Mr. Kennedy's own version is here given:

"The zeal which prompted me to action was for Democratic principles and, for the Democratic party as long as it most nearly represented those principles. I recognized the necessity for a form of government securing the greatest degree of individual freedom, consistent with the equal enjoyment of freedom by others. I believed that there should be freedom of opinion, speech and press and above all that each and every individual should be free to sell where he could get the most for the product of his labor and buy where he could get the most for his earnings, regardless of the selfish interests of others, hence I was a free trader and the policy of the 'Star' was directed accordingly. On the question of



finance I had always regarded the legal tender act as one of injustice to the creditor class. That act necessitated the resumption act, one of equal injustice to the debtor class. Changes in certain industrial conditions at home, and in the standard of value abroad, had caused an increasing disparity in value between gold and silver, and people were beginning to divide into the friends of gold and those of silver; the latter proposing to repeal the error of the Legal Tender Act in a different form. Parties were not then divided upon the question as they were afterward, but during my connection with the 'Star,' whether right or wrong, it never advocated the coinage of silver except for fractional currency."

The foreman of the mechanical department by whom the first edition of the "Commoner" was issued, was William Warner of Rochester, Pa., a skilfull and intelligent young man, who was assisted by M. J. White, J. Lemmon, Joseph Hemphill and John W. Fry, and upon the retirement of Mr. Lemmon, Joseph Loar of Greensburg, took his place. After Mr. Warner, the foremanship was filled by Samuel K. Alexander, who had filled this position previously on the paper. Others who served in the mechanical department from time to time were David McConnel, Joseph Diven, Harry Patton, Jesse Ramsey, Samuel McClurg, Alex. Tallon, Miss Mary McGregor, Miss Ramsey.

Soon after the first number of the paper appeared, an old gentleman named Beatty of Washington, Pa., moved by love of Democratic principles, an unwillingness to be idle, and also by the hope of restoring his worldly fortunes, applied for the position of solicitor of subscriptions and advertisements, and although nearly eighty years old, so industrious, courteous and trustworthy was he, that he did more in that line than any of the younger men who at different times ventured on the same work.

R. Gregor McGregor, the brilliant paragrapher and editorial writer, was engaged for some time on the paper, and held his own well in the editorial combats that followed, and was especially valuable in the campaign of 1880.

Some time later Lewis W. Reed, a young man from the South Side, an enthusiastic champion of Democracy, who had been active as local reporter, became local editor, and filled that position in a very creditable manner, doing effective work not only through the "Star," but to secure the success of the party, whose cause the paper steadfastly advocated. Mr. Reed was born in Raccoon township March 25, 1857, attended district school and New Sheffield and Woodlawn academies; was principal of Vanport schools September 1882 to March 1883, and resigned on account of ill health; went to work on the "Star," read law with John M. Buchanan Esq., and was admitted to the bar February 4, 1889, practicing for two years alone, and February 1, 1891, went into partnership with Mr. Buchanan, which continued for six years, when he again went to himself. He was married March 27, 1882, to Lizzie Hall a daughter of a neighboring farmer, and they have three children, one son and two daughters. Mr. Reed has been interested all his life in newspaper work, and is now a stockholder and secretary of the Star Publishing Company.

In the fall of 1884, Charles F. Whisler, a man of literary inclinations, and strong Democratic proclivities, conceived the notion that the party should be more energetically supported, and proposed starting an opposition paper. Mr. Kennedy learning of it, secured an interview with Mr. Whisler and succeeded in convincing him that the safe and economical plan was to take his place. Having agreed upon terms they entered into partnership October 1884, for a period of six months, at the end of which time Mr. Whisler was to assume full

ownership, and he took full charge of the editorial and local work at once. When the end of the six months came, the failure to realize pecuniary anticipations, prevented the deal from being consummated. Then Lewis W. Reed joined with Mr. Whisler in the publication of the paper. The time was an unpropitious one, in a very dull season, and the business went along with but little, if any, increase, and soon Mr. Whisler and Mr. Reed sold their interest back to Mr. Kennedy, and retired from the paper, the business being again taken up by the latter in October 1885. A more extended notice of Mr. Whisler appears in the sketch of the "Beaver Valley News" New Brighton, where he did his best work.

The power of the Democratic party in the county was on the wane, while the Republicans who had been divided by factional quarrels, gradually came together, leaving the Democrats in a hopeless minority. Beaver Falls had grown rapidly and of great importance, and a Democratic paper of considerable influence had been started by John Mellon, under the name of the "Globe," which promised to be a formidable rival to the "Star," and Mr. Kennedy feeling that there was not room for two Democratic papers in the county, sold the "Star" to Mr. Mellon in September 1887, and retired after almost ten years of faithful service to his party, in a well conducted and able paper.

Mr. Mellon consolidated the two papers under the name of the "Globe-Star." September 10, 1891, he sold one half interest to William H. Porter, M. D., and Richard W. Stiffey Esq., and September 28, 1891, they changed the name to the "Star," and began the publication of the "Daily Star" at their office in Beaver.

Richard W. Stiffey Esq., was editor of the paper. Mr. Stiffey is a member of the Beaver bar, but devotes a great deal of his time to the lumber business in which he

is extensively engaged. As an editor Mr. Stiffey had a lively and caustic style, that was apt to stir up the opposition and create interest.

Dr. Porter was the advertising manager, a gentleman of excellent qualities and well liked by the people. He is now a practicing physician in Beaver. Mr. Mellon was business manager, but was forced on account of ill health to sell his interest in the paper and removed to Florida, where he again took up the work amid the balmy breezes of his new home. He improved in health but it was of short duration, death overtaking him one morning as he was on the way from his residence to the newspaper office.

Samuel K. Alexander was foreman of the office, and his son James Alexander was a printer, who is now foreman of the "Star" composing rooms, and has been with the paper since the daily was started. Samuel K. Alexander after more than half a century in the work, has retired to private life and is now a resident of Beaver.

One of the men who contributed much to the starting of the daily edition, was Theodore Lampert, the first news editor, a sketch of whom we give with the "Star." He was born at Crestline, O., April 11, 1860, received his education in the public schools of that place from which he was graduated in June 1878. The same year he was selected a teacher and taught in the schools from which he was graduated, for two years. In the fall of 1880 he went to work for the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad as freight brakeman, but was soon appointed to a clerkship in the freight office of the same railroad at Mansfield, O. While serving in this capacity he contributed to the local newspapers railroad happenings, which work led him gradually into the newspaper field. In the spring of 1884 he became local editor of the "Mansfield Shield and Banner," a weekly, and six months

later, when the "Mansfield Daily Herald" was started, he became a member of its local staff. In the fall of 1885 he was offered a position as local editor of the "Beaver Falls Tribune" which he accepted and held until 1888 when he went on the staff of the "News-Democrat" at Canton, O. He here remained until the fall of 1891 when he returned to Beaver county and assisted in launching the "Daily Star." In December 1894, he went to Pittsburg where he became connected with the "Pittsburg Post," taking charge of the industrial route. With the exception of about six months, when he was on the "Pittsburg Times," he conducted the industrial column of the "Post" for seven years. He then became connected with the "Pittsburg Dispatch," where he is now doing general assignment work.

In January 1894 the plant was sold to a stock company, with Mr. Porter as managing editor. In February 1895, the "Star Publishing Company" was chartered, and a board of directors was elected, with John Conway, a banker of Rochester, as president, William B. Dunlap editor and manager, and W. H. Porter solicitor and collector.

John Conway was born in this county March 27, 1830, the son of Michael and Mary O'Brien Conway, who came from Ireland in 1825, and settled in Economy township. He was educated in the public schools and a college at Vincennes, Ind. He followed steamboating for a while, then embarked in the dry goods business at New Castle, Pa., later in the same business in Rochester until 1871, when the bank of which he was president was started. In 1857 he married Thalia, daughter of Philip Bentel, to whom two children were born, Lilian wife of N. F. Hurst Rochester, and Charles B. Conway. Mr. Conway has been one of the most prominent business men in the county.

Hon. William B. Dunlap was born at Darlington, Pa., son of Samuel R. and Nancy Hemphill Dunlap, the former a grandson of Walter Clarke, a member of the First Constitutional Convention of Pennsylvania in 1776. His mother was the daughter of Judge Joseph Hemphill, one of the three commissioners named in the Act of Assembly for the erection of Beaver county. Mr. Dunlap was educated in the common schools and the Darlington and Beaver academies and Jefferson College. He intended to study law, but on account of ill health was forced to abandon it. Later he was principal for two years of the Scott Street public schools of Covington, Ky. His health still remaining poor, he entered upon work on the river, and was for a number of years engaged in the transportation business on the rivers. In 1890, with two Republican candidates in the field for State Senate, he was elected as a Democrat to that office in this district. Soon after the expiration of his term, he became connected with the "Star."

In April 1896, the office was removed from the Kennedy building on Turnpike street into the Buchanan building Third street, and new material and press added. The plant was burned the morning of March 25, 1897, between the hours of 5 and 6 o'clock, when the entire outfit was totally destroyed. The "Beaver Valley News" of New Brighton, telephoned at once to the editor, offering the help of its office, and the same day an issue was published, and was printed from the "News" office for a few days, when new type, etc., was purchased and set up in an old framé building in the rear of the "Argus and Radical" office, where the type was set, and the paper printed in the press room of the "Argus and Radical."

In July 1898, a new building was erected for the "Star" immediately in rear of the new Buchanan block, and a complete new outfit installed. The editorial and business office was established in the Buchanan building.

In February 1899, Mr. Porter resigned and David L. McNees a skilled newspaper man was appointed as his successor. Mr. McNees was born January 4, 1866, at Jacksonville, Butler county, Pa., the son of John M. and Mary E. McNees. He was educated in the public schools, the Prospect Academy, the West Sunbury Academy, and Allegheny College Meadville, graduating from the latter in June 1892, with the degree of A. B., having spent six months of his senior year in Great Britain as the representative of a commercial house of Washington, D. C. In college he was on the staff of the college paper, and served continuously as news and literary editor. After graduation he traveled three months in the Northwest, then came to Beaver county, and was employed on the staff of the "Star" as New Brighton reporter until 1898, in the meantime acting as special correspondent for several Pittsburg and Philadelphia papers. He was secretary of the New Brighton Board of Health from the fall of 1895 to August 1, 1898. On January 9, 1895, he was married to Miss Ada Irene McEwen, of Mercer, Pa.

The "Star" has had a number of bright representatives in the different towns, but we have been able to obtain sketches of but few. Among the younger reporters is Samuel G. Kennedy, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Kennedy, New Brighton, who entered the newspaper business on the Pittsburg "Gazette" in the summer of 1901, working there during his summer vacation from college. The next summer he was on the "Chronicle-Telegraph," doing general assignment work. The following summer he engaged with the "Beaver Times" as Beaver and court reporter, remaining there until September 1904, when he entered upon work with the "Star." In addition to his other duties, he is the Beaver county representative of the Associated Press, the Publishers' Press, the "New York World," "Sun," "American and Journal," the "Philadelphia North American," "Press," "Public

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Ledger" and "Evening Bulletin," and the Beaver and New Brighton representative of all the Pittsburg papers and news gathering agencies.

One of the best known reporters in the county, James Ellis McClure, Beaver Falls representative of the "Star," is given a place here because of his long connection with the paper though he began newspaper work in Beaver Falls. He was born in Pittsburg July 7, 1844, is a graduate of Duff's College, and during the Civil War served in the 15th Regiment State Militia, Knap's Independent Battery of Light Artillery, and in the First Battalion of Pennsylvania Light Artillery. At the expiration of his term of service he entered the auditing department of the Union Railroad & Transportation Co. at Pittsburg, leaving there after six years' service to engage with his brother-in-law, Samuel F. Burd, in the banking business at Mercer, as Burd & McClure. They were successful until the panic of 1873, and Mr. Burd having died in the meantime, he helped organize and opened the books of the Farmers & Mechanic's National Bank of Mercer, where he remained two years as Assistant Cashier, having wound up the affairs of Burd & McClure during that time. He resigned and went to Evansburg, Pa., to keep books for a wholesale hardware and Oil Supply Co., which failed, and then he went to Chicago and followed his calling for about a year, and then returned east. He first began newspaper work in the office of the "Beaver Falls Tribune" in 1881, where he was bookkeeper, and began to write local news. He remained there about two years and helped start the "Daily Tribune," being its first reporter. In the fall of 1884 he accepted the position of Beaver Falls reporter on the daily edition of the "Beaver Valley News," where he remained four years, resigning to engage with John W. Carson in 1888, in the publication of the daily "Journal" Beaver Falls, where he remained until it was



purchased by George Warrington, when he returned to the "Tribune." After two years he was offered the position of Beaver Falls reporter and city editor of the "Star," which he accepted, and he has held that position since. He has also been the Beaver Falls representative of the Pittsburg "Dispatch," "Post," "Times," and "Gazette," and the Tri-State Press Bureau of Pittsburg, and has done considerable special work for New York, Philadelphia and Cleveland papers.

Among others of the local writers on the paper, are W. C. Hamilton New Brighton, John Thomas Rochester, and Thomas Beaver, Monaca.

Mrs. Carrie Ashton reads proof and has charge of the mailing department.

The force of printers consists of James Alexander foreman of the newspaper; compositor Walter Hallam; foreman of job office Robert Nulton; pressman W. B. Drassler; operators of Simplex H. L. Gresham and G. R. Hemphill; apprentice Ed. Steel.

In 1900 the weekly "Star" was changed to a semi-weekly. The type is now set on a Simplex machine, and a fine new press has been installed, making the office a very complete one. The paper has become one of the best Democratic papers in Western Pennsylvania, outside of Pittsburg, and is prosperous. The hard work and fortitude of the journalistic fathers of Democracy, have borne good fruit, and the party has in the "Star" a worthy and able organ.



### THE COMMONER.

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May 1, 1897, the "Commoner" another Democratic paper, of a more radical type than the "Star," was started by the Rochester Publishing Company, with R. W. Stiffey editor. The company was composed of R. W. Stiffey, H. D. Anderson and William Lutz. It was organized into the Commoner Publishing Company May 1, 1900, with Charles R. Eckert as editor, and still exists.

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### GENEVA COLLEGE CABINET.

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A monthly paper with the above name, is published by a set of officers representing the students of Geneva College Beaver Falls, devoted exclusively to literary subjects and college news.

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A weekly paper was conducted for a while at New Galilee by George W. Pyle, but is now discontinued.

## CHAPTER VI.

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### BEAVER FALLS PAPERS.

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The lands on which this little city is located, were patented by General Daniel Broadhead in 1779. He succeeded General Lachlan McIntosh in command of the western department, with headquarters at Fort Pitt. March 17, 1793, the Legislature of Pennsylvania passed a law opening up the lands for settlement lying north of the Ohio and west of the Allegheny rivers. General Broadhead had two tracts of 400 acres each, embracing the "black walnut bottoms," on which the first town was laid out.

In August 1801, General Broadhead sold his land to David Hoopes of Chester, Pa., for the use of Hoopes, Townsend & Co. In 1803 these gentlemen erected a building in Sharon, now the northern part of Bridgewater, the second house from Brady's run on the bank of the Beaver river, for the use of Isaac Wilson for merchandising. It was called the "Old Red Front" and is yet standing, remodeled and made more modern. Near this old building, on the flat between the Beaver river and Brady's run, in 1806, Aaron Burr's managers and workmen built a flotilla of boats as a part of his expedition down the Ohio. All the material was furnished through the Old Red Front, and the men were

boarded in a house near by. With this expedition were two English brothers named Constable, who had no part in the expedition, but were along to see the country and sketch its interesting points. The owners of the Black Walnut Bottom wished to lay out a plan of lots on their tract, and engaged the Constable brothers who were engineers, to do the work. For their services they requested, and were granted, the privilege of naming the new town, which they called Brighton after their old home in England. The new town had varying fortunes, with some manufacturing and trading, but did not grow much until 1867, when new industries were established in it, and it was incorporated November 9, 1868, as the Borough of Beaver Falls.

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### BEAVER FALLS CHRONICLE.

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The first newspaper in the town of Brighton was called the "Beaver Falls Chronicle." This paper was the successor of the "Aurora," which was discontinued March 1, 1839, and began its existence in Rochester October 12, 1839, with J. Washington White as editor, who was the last editor of the "Aurora." It is said that Ovid Pinney was the originator of the paper. He owned a large amount of real estate in the town, and was one of its most prominent citizens, leaving the place in 1853. The motto of the paper was "Our country right or wrong." It was a four page, six column paper, and in the amount of reading matter would compare favorably with many of the weeklies of today. The paper suspended some time early in the year 1840, the following reference being made to it by the "Argus" of March 11, 1840: "A number of the 'Beaver Falls

Chronicle,' which had been suspended for some weeks, was issued a few days ago. The editor gives good reasons for his suspension, and takes occasion to lash the Loco Foco leaders with great severity. He has been shamefully treated by professed friends who led him into difficulty, and took advantage of his situation."

In June 1840, the "Chronicle" hauled down the Van Buren flag and enlisted under the banner of Harrison for president, and thereafter was a Whig paper. The paper remained in Rochester until July 1840. In its issue of the 23d of that month, the following editorial notice appeared: "The office of the 'Beaver Falls Chronicle' has been removed from Rochester to Brighton. Those of our subscribers who reside in Rochester and its vicinity, will find their papers by calling at Jacob Hinds' grocery—those in Beaver at the book store of J. Bowen—those of Fallston at Mr. Cannon's store, and those in New Brighton at the store of Edward Hoopes." This closed the career of the paper as a Rochester institution, and was the first paper published in Brighton, now Beaver Falls, and remained under its old name until August 1840.

### BEAVER COUNTY PALLADIUM.

August 29, 1840, J. Washington White editor and proprietor of the "Beaver Falls Chronicle," formally transferred the paper to E. Burk Fisher, in the following notice: "With the last number of the 'Beaver Falls Chronicle,' the subscriber relinquished his connection with it, and has assigned the establishment to E. Burk

Fisher Esq., who will hereafter publish it under the title of 'Beaver County Palladium.' In introducing his successor to the confidence of his old subscribers, the subscriber feels that the name of Mr. Fisher will be sufficient guarantee that the character of the 'Palladium' will be fully commensurate with the interests and wishes of Beaver county. Mr. Fisher has been a publisher for more than ten years, and must be well known to the citizens of this county." It was published by W. H. Whitney & Co.

Mr. Fisher came from Pittsburg where he edited the "Literary Examiner and Western Monthly Review," and was also editor of the "Saturday Evening Visitor." In June 1851 Mr. Fisher started a paper in Columbus, O. Mr. Fisher took charge of the paper promising to publish a clean, decent paper, that "will never be the vehicle of falsehood, or assailant of individual reputation." After defending his political standing he said: "When the heat of the political excitement shall have been lost in the result of the approaching contest, and our duty as a politician shall for the time be suspended, it will afford him pleasure to assume the less exciting, but equally grateful, duty of a herald of the business resources of Beaver county." He espoused the cause of General Harrison, and placed at the head of his paper the motto: "Take away the sword—the pen can save the state," an exclamation attributed to Richelieu, which Mr. Fisher made the text for a two column article, political to the core. The paper was published at \$2 per annum, and was the same size as its predecessor. This issue of his paper contained nine columns of Sheriff's sales, signed by David Somers Sheriff. It also contained three columns of ordinances of New Brighton borough, signed by Harvey Blanchard president of council, and Harvey Thomas clerk.

From the time of assuming charge of the paper until

the National election, Mr. Fisher made as red hot a political paper as the county could produce. In its issue of October 29, he had an editorial entitled, "The editor to his fellow citizens," which was over five columns in length, a "last word" that was full of political vim. From December 12, 1840, the name of E. B. Fisher disappeared from the paper, and the prospectus was signed, "Publisher of 'Beaver County Palladium.'" In the issue of December 26, 1840, the following notice was printed in the paper: "Take notice that we have applied to the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Beaver County, for the relief provided for insolvent debtors, by the law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and that they have appointed the first Monday of March next, for the hearing of us and our creditors, at the Court House in the borough of Beaver, at which time and place you may attend if you think proper. E. B. Fisher, W. H. Whitney, late printers." February 6, 1841, the firm of Wm. H. Eskridge & Co. appears at the head of the paper, which disappeared after the issue of March 12. The motto was changed to "The Throne we Honor is the People's Choice."

March 19, 1841, the name of John B. Early appears as editor. In his prospectus he says that, "at the solicitation of a number of friends, he has consented once more to assume the arduous duties of a newspaper editor." While continuing the paper as a supporter of President Harrison's administration he says: "Its columns shall be free from those foul blots of party malevolence and personal detraction, which instead of being productive of good, are calculated to sow the seeds of embittered dissension, and pander to the worst passions of human nature." Mr. Early made a good paper, which was fairly well patronized with advertisements, but it was doubtless too expensive for the population, and it was discontinued in the fall of 1841.

## BEAVER FALLS JOURNAL.

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No record exists of any other newspaper in the town until 1874. The first printing office established in the present Beaver Falls was that installed in November 1873, by Gilbert A. Hays, who removed his equipment from Sewickley, and opened up a job printing office in the Reeves building on Main street, now Seventh avenue, under the title of Boles & Hays. The office was conducted until August 1877, when accepting a lucrative offer in the then frontier country, as manager in one of the large wheat farms in Dakota, near Bismark, he disposed of his interest to his partner, Scudder D. Boles. Soon after opening their office Boles & Hays began the publication of the "Beaver Falls Journal," the initial number appearing October 1, 1874, which continued monthly until the next year.

Gilbert Adams Hays was born in Kittanning, Pennsylvania, July 9, 1854, his father Alexander Hays, then chief engineer of the Allegheny Valley railroad, later being one of the conspicuous figures in the Civil War, giving his life, with the rank of a Major General, to his country, on the battlefield of the Wilderness. Early in life Gilbert A. Hays acquired a decided taste for the art of printing, his first training being in the office of Rev. John Launitz, who printed a small German Sunday School paper in Manchester, now a part of Allegheny City, and his experience in "pi-ing" a big form, just inked, all in German type, is yet one of the star tales of his printer life. In February 1869, he accepted a position in the general office of the old Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railroad, in Pittsburg, having charge of the stationery department for four years, when he



gave his entire attention to his new office in Beaver Falls, having conducted a two-press office at his home in Sewickley during the greater part of the time he held his railroad position. On the death in 1880, of his grand father John B. McFadden, for many years a prominent business man in Pittsburg, Mr. Hays accepted the management of a number of fire insurance companies formerly represented by his grandfather, and conducted this office until April 1895, when he sold his business and established the "Sewickley Valley," a high grade, illustrated, society journal, in his home town of Sewickley. On acquiring control of the "Beaver Times," a long established weekly paper in Beaver, Pa., in February 1898, the "Sewickley Valley" was sold to Miss Janey M. Coard, and Mr. Hays once more figured in the newspaper field of Beaver county. This venture proving neither profitable nor congenial, the "Times" was sold to its present publishers, and on the organization of the United States Steel Corporation, he accepted a position in the executive offices of that concern in New York, as traveling representative of their insurance department with which he is at present identified.

In 1882 Mr. Hays wedded Miss Sallie A. Fleming, a member of the well known family in Sewickley, ten children being the result of this union, eight of whom are living, all at the family home in Sewickley.

For many years Mr. Hays was active in Masonic circles, being a charter member of Crescent Lodge No. 576, of Pittsburg, and all other bodies up to and including Consistory and Mystic Shrine; a past commander of Davis Camp, Sons of Veterans; honorary member of General Alexander Hays Post, No. 3, Grand Army of the Republic; charter member of General Alexander Hays Council, Jr. O. U. A. M., and secretary and historian of the Sixty-third Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers Regimental Association.

## BEAVER FALLS COURIER.

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In 1875, John F. Porter examined the field at Beaver Falls, and found a town of 4,000 people with a printing office but no weekly paper, an unheard of condition elsewhere in the great state, yet how to establish such a thing with a cash capital of \$1.85 puzzled him; but he had taken chances before, and he rushed a little plan of advertising specialty, so that when bills were to be paid there was enough of surplus to issue one week's paper and thus "The Courant," a name that lasted only one week, first saw light in April 1875. It was printed by Boles & Hays, job printers. Now it so happened that the publisher held an interest in a view of Niagara Falls, a striking picture, and this was the chromo day for subscriptions. The liberty was given to canvas in the many factories at the noon hour, and these orders for subscriptions were recognized by the cashiers of the companies as cash. It was a bold move for every subscription meant with picture framed \$3.75, but it won, and the "Beaver Falls Courier" was established April 18, 1875, and in 1876 bought its own office. In 1879, having made a living for the editor and family, for these years of hard work, the inevitable happened. Two young men from Rochester, N. Y., Roberts and Vanhorn, sought to establish another paper, and so rather than endure another struggle, and as these new men would pay a real value, by the advice of true friends who in the time of need stood by him, Mr. Porter sold his interest and retired.

John Frederick Porter was born at St. Joseph Berrian county, Mich., February 5, 1840; was the son of John Frederick Porter of German descent, and Mary Porter

of English ancestry; was educated in the public schools of New York and was married October 26, 1864, at Bayonne, N. J., to Minnie Florence Bird. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Mr. Porter enlisted as a private in the 84th New York Vols. (14th N. Y. S. N. G., Brooklyn), was wounded at Groveton, Va., August 29, 1862; was promoted to Second Lieutenant of the Pierrpont Rifles N. Y. Infantry, which was consolidated with the 14th Regiment N. Y. C. Volunteers; was commissioned Captain October 8, 1862; resigned April 1864; re-entered the service and was commissioned Captain Co. H 25th N. Y. C. Volunteers August 22, 1864; commissioned Major, and Brevet Lieutenant Colonel by General Sheridan, for gallantry at Fisher's Hill.

The oft told incident of Col. Porter's gallantry on the field, was graphically told the writer many years ago. In the fall of 1864, General Sheridan in supreme command of the Union forces in the Shenandoah valley, was sent for by General Grant at Harper's Ferry for consultation. On the morning of his return, he heard the booming of cannon and started on his "twenty miles away" ride. Col. Porter was acting on the staff of General A. T. A. Torbet and in the dawn, sharp firing not more than a thousand yards away, told of Early's surprise. The Confederates had found a gap in our picket line, and not a shot was fired until their whole force was fairly on top of our sleeping army. The confusion was great and even to find one's own horse was impossible, and Col. Porter seized the first horse he could, and cleared out where the zip of bullets was less hot and thick.

Possibly two thousand yards from where were gathered a knot of soldiers, was a hastily thrown up earthwork, from behind which a scattering rifle fire came. The aide who received his order, dashed over to this small crowd of unorganized soldiers, and seeing Major Porter

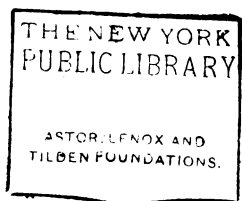
said: "Major, General Sheridan says clear that earthwork of Johnnies and see what's there." At his call 20 to 30 horsemen responded, and a dash was made for that spot. Half way to it the Major turned and found he was uncomfortably in advance of his men, and he also found that he could not check or control the new horse. In a moment he was near the trench, and tried hard to sheathe his sabre but could not and so let it drop, and as the horse leaped the earthwork, he with pistol in hand made an effort to capture or wound the only soldier who had remained to resist the charge, but discovered later when the excitement was over that he had brought the pistol hammer to half cock. Probably the Confederate's nerves were not real steady either, for he fired not twenty feet away and missed his mark, and what is more escaped. To General Sheridan who could not see the runaway horse, it looked like a very brave and heroic deed, and he made the Major a Lieutenant Colonel for "gallant and meritorious action in the face of the enemy," "but" adds the Major when telling the story, "what about the horse?"

The Civil War closed, and in it Col. Porter had done heroic work, being twice severely wounded. He spent a year in Libby prison, from which after a marvelous patience in preparation, he boldly walked out in broad daylight, clad in a grey uniform, right past both guard and commandant whom he saluted. In the city of Richmond he sought and found Union sympathizers, with whom he remained more than a week gathering information concerning Confederate forces and defences, and then disguised as a teamster after supplies, he drove a mule team to the Potomac river, over which he crossed in a small boat, and which to get safely back had to run the blockade of the Union patrol fleet. Reaching Washington he reported to the Secretary of War, upon which information largely, the Dahlgreen-Kilpatrick raid was planned.



J. F. PORTER  
I. F. MANSFIELD  
W. H. REED

G. A. HAYS  
W. S. FULKMAN  
G. L. EBERHART



From 1865 to 1873 Mr. Porter filled many positions, much of the time with the American Associated Press. After selling the "Courier," for a year he issued industrial publications and wrote much of the "Picturesque B. & O." issued by that railroad.

In 1889, having in a single year while living at Swarthmore, Pa., lost by death seven, every member of his family but one, his son now Dr. Fred W. Porter of Tampa, Fla., he visited Florida, and expecting to remain but a few days. It was a belated train on a Saturday night, and so made no connection, that changed the course of Mr. Porter's life. On Monday morning he left for a hundred miles south of where he was, and a derailed train forced a stop when only twelve of them had been run, and thus being diverted and asked to share a ride with a stranger to Avon Park, 25 miles away, he accepted not knowing who his companion was. He proved to be the Right Rev. William Crane Gray, who as they journeyed, told of an intensely interesting religious work, and it was thus that the Bishop and the laymen met, and out of that day's drive grew in time the consecration of a life and the building of a church.

In 1896 he became a deacon of the P. E. Church, and later in full orders as a Priest thereof. He erected the Church of the Redeemer a neat and commodious house of worship at Avon Park while in charge of the mission field there. A wider field for usefulness presented itself at St. Mary's Church, Augusta, Ga., and then at Tampa, Fla., where he is now Rector of St. James Episcopal Church (colored). The church and rectory are located in the very heart of "the scrub," surrounded by dens of vice and iniquity, where with not a white man within sound of his voice, he lives alone and is ministering to the poor colored people. He is greatly beloved by his people, who affectionately call him "Father Porter," and his word and counsel are law among them. His parish

school embraces all classes, from the kindergarten to manhood and womanhood, and its course covers not only the elementary principles of a literary education, but an industrial training for both sexes, with Mothers' meetings, at which the principles of domestic economy are taught by a competent teacher. Other lines are also taken up, with which he is laying the foundations for great usefulness to the colored people.

Roberts & Vanhorn, purchasers of the "Courier," changed the name to the "Beaver County Enterprise," which they operated for about one year.

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### BEAVER FALLS TRIBUNE.

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In the year 1880, the "Enterprise" was purchased by Col. Jacob Weyand, who again changed the name, calling it the "Beaver Falls Tribune." January 1, 1882, Col. Weyand sold the paper to John H. Telford and W. S. Fulkman, the latter retiring after three months. In 1889 Major G. L. Eberhart of New Brighton, became interested in the paper, and was its editor for some time. In 1890 the concern took the form of a company styled The Tribune Printing Company, which was incorporated September 26, 1902, of which Ira F. Mansfield is president, Herman F. Dillon vice president, and John H. Telford secretary and treasurer and manager. The "Daily Tribune" was started August 25, 1884, the third daily paper in the county.

John H. Telford was born in Allegheny City, Pa., August 8, 1848, and is a son of James and Sarah Telford of Scotch-Irish descent. He is a graduate of the public schools of his native city and learned the printing trade



after which he was in the employ of the "Christian Advocate" Pittsburg for eight years, the "Methodist Recorder" Pittsburg 18 months, and was foreman in the job office of Moore & Nesbit Pittsburg, for four years. He was married to Maggie Hale at Pittsburg in 1873, and has four children, his sons James and John being associated with him in the printing business. Mr. Telford during his connection with the paper, has given more attention to the improvement of the mechanical department of the plant, than he has to editorial management. However, the paper has always been outspoken on matters of local and public importance, and also on party principles when the editor has found spare moments to devote along these lines, holding to the principles of the Republican party and opposed to bossism whether in the county or state management of party affairs. The principal public events in which the "Tribune" has taken an active part since becoming a daily, was the ardent advocacy in 1882-83 of a street railway between Beaver Falls and New Brighton, the effort to secure borough ownership of a public water works in Beaver Falls, and opposition to party management by Senator Quay. The equipment of the plant has grown from a very meagre one, to one of five presses and other machinery, a linotype and several hundred fonts of type in a building owned by the company.

Wilson Stanley Fulkman was born December 7, 1854, in Allegheny county, Pa., his boyhood days being mostly spent on a farm. His education was secured in the public schools and the State Normal School Edinboro, Pa. He learned the trade of printer at New Castle, Pa., with Wm. S. Black and with the "Courant" of that city, and wrote local news items during his connection with them. He returned to his home at Centreville, Pa., where he started the "Centreville Casket" in the spring of 1877, which had a fitful existence of two years. He

was married to Miss Ruth E. McDanel of North Sewickley township, Beaver county, Pa., December 26, 1878, and moved to New Brighton October 15, 1879. He had been promised a situation on the "Beaver Falls Courier" but arrived too late, and he went to work on the "Beaver Valley News" as solicitor, and later he was one of the compositors, combining with it the gathering of local news, soliciting and collecting, working on the paper from time to time until the winter of 1883, in January of that year assisting in securing subscribers for the "Daily News." In the spring of 1882 he started the "Beaver Falls Index," there being then four weekly papers in the town, and the new paper died after twelve issues. During the years 1885 to 1886, he again was employed on the "Tribune" as foreman and reporter. In addition to the papers of which he was part owner in Beaver Falls, he published the "Ellwood Eagle," for about four years, was associated with the "Ellwood Motor," and his last venture was the "Beaver County Eagle," which he started in New Brighton in November 1899, and which died in July 1900. His latest work in the county was on the weekly edition of the "Beaver Valley News," as circulation manager, which he resigned in September 1902, to accept a position in the office of the New Franklin Printing Company Columbus, O., where he has the position of city manager.

Hon. I. F. Mansfield was born June 27, 1841; graduated from Poland College, being a classmate of late President William McKinley; learned the molder's and machine trade in Pittsburg; enlisted in the 105th Ohio Volunteers serving from 1862 to 1865, and was promoted from private to Orderly Sergeant, Second and First Lieutenant, and Brevet Captain, and A. Q. M. 14th Army Corps. Mr. Mansfield is president of the Tribune Company, and was also a stockholder and director in the Radical Printing Co. for several years, until it was

merged into the "Daily X-Ray," when he and J. L. Holmes Esq. bought out the entire plant, and resold the Radical Printing Co., with building and material to Smith Curtis. Mr. Mansfield has published a book on the "Wild Flowers" of Beaver County, Pa., also one on the "Coal and Fire Clay" of Beaver county. He was a member of the Legislature for the terms 1881, 1893-5-7 and 1903.

Major Gilbert L. Eberhart is descended on his father's side from a noble German family, with ancestors who came to this country in 1758, and served with honor in the wars of the Revolution and 1812; his father was a grandnephew of Gen. Hugh Mercer, who fell at the battle of Princeton, N. J., in 1777. He is a native of Beaver county, and his education was begun in Beaver Academy, and later in Mercer Academy, where he was graduated in a classical course of three years, and then spent two years in Washington, Pa., College. He was civil engineer on the Erie & Pittsburg Railway, of which his uncle, Gen. Thomas J. Power, was promoter and first president. He taught school in Greenville, was superintendent of the Mercer County public schools and principal of the Conneautville, Pa., Academy. April 17, 1861, he enlisted in Col. John W. McLane's Erie Regiment as Sergeant in Company D., later serving on the staff of the Eighth Pennsylvania Reserve Volunteer Corps. June 21, 1862, he was promoted by Gen. Meade to Commissary of Subsistence in his brigade in the Third division of Porter's corps. In 1862 he was commissioned Quartermaster of the Eighth Pennsylvania Reserves. At Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862, he lost the hearing in his right ear. In 1865 he was assigned to duty by Gen. Rufus Saxton as superintendent of Freedmen's Schools for the State of Georgia, and established more than 250 schools in two years. In 1868 he was superintendent of the public schools of Rochester, and later in Kittan-

ning. He was admitted to the Beaver county bar June 14, 1870, and soon after to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Represented Beaver county in the Legislature in the sessions of 1877 and 1878. In 1883 he was chosen Burgess of New Brighton, serving two terms and declining a third. In 1891 he was elected a Senatorial delegate by the district composed of Washington and Beaver counties, to represent it in a convention to amend the State Constitution. In 1879 he organized a military company in New Brighton, of which he was Captain, and which, in 1880, became Company B, 15th Regiment, N. G. P., and one year later a part of the 10th Regiment. He is also the author of many articles on philology and kindred scientific subjects, and as a poet has achieved some notoriety. He has been twice president of the Law Association of Beaver county, has been for over 30 years a member of the vestry of the parish to which he belongs, and for many years has been one of the Judges of the Ecclesiastical Court and a trustee of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburg. He is also a member of the Masons, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, the G. A. R. and Union Veteran Legion. Recently the honorary degree of LL. D. was conferred on him by the Nashville College of Law.

Most of the reporters of the county have been engaged on the "Tribune" from time to time, of a few of whom we have secured sketches, which may be found herewith or in connection with other papers of the county.

Prof. Otto F. H. Bert was born in New Brighton, Pa.; was graduated from New Brighton High School and Geneva College, and studied in Harvard University and Mass. Institute of Technology. For two and one half years, he was reporter on the "Beaver Falls Tribune" and during that time did some work on other Beaver valley papers; was twice engaged by Pittsburg News

Agency; was reporter and night editor and did considerable special work for Pittsburg "Dispatch" and Boston "Post." He turned to teaching in 1898 and taught Greensburg Seminary, Greensburg, Pa.; St. Joseph Academy, Greensburg, Pa.; Washington & Jefferson College, Washington, Pa.; at present has chair of mathematics in Geneva College. He is a member of the Lutheran Church and of the Archaeological Institute of America.

Col. William H. Reed was born in Beaver county, Pa., December 12, 1843, son of Thomas Reed and Frances Irwin Reed, the latter a sister of the late General W. W. Irwin, for two terms State Treasurer of Pennsylvania. Mr. Reed enlisted in Company A., 17th Pennsylvania Cavalry September 6, 1862, and was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps September 30, 1863, on account of wounds. After the war he located at Chicago, where he became prominent in politics, became a fast friend of Generals Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and Logan. Under the Arthur Administration he was appointed a special agent of the Pension department, until President Cleveland's administration, living at the time in Pittsburg. He came to Beaver county and entered upon newspaper work for some time, thence removing to Pittsburg, where he was a member of the Americus Club, Alexander Hays Post No. 3, G. A. R., the Union Veteran Legion, the Press Club and Tariff Club, and was a Master Mason. He was married January 27, 1870, to Lillian A. Morton, and had five children, of whom Alice May of Beaver, William A. and Robert L. of Chicago, and Stanley Q. of Warren, O., are yet living. He died Friday June 26, 1896, and is buried in Beaver cemetery.

Albert Henry Beitch, son of G. F. and Catherine Beitch, was born in New Brighton April 12, 1874. He attended the public schools and later McMahan's Business College. He worked in the Dithridge glass

factories to earn money with which to go to school. After finishing a thorough commercial training, he worked as a stenographer for the Pittsburg, Cincinnati & Chicago Railway Co. at Dennison, Ohio. It was during the financial panic of 1893 and 1894 that Mr. Beitch first entered the newspaper work. He came back to New Brighton and was engaged as a reporter on the "Beaver Falls Tribune." Soon after that he left the "Tribune" to engage in the publication of the "Beaver Falls Recorder" with L. L. Carson. Mr. Beitch was afterward employed in a reportorial capacity on the "Beaver Falls Republican," the "Argus and Radical," the "New Castle News," "The Ellwood City Motor," and the "New Brighton Daily News." In the spring of 1896 he went to Pittsburg and did extra work, writing special articles and covering general assignments on several of the Pittsburg dailies. His first regular position was on the Pittsburg "Daily News" in the capacity of a reporter. In two weeks he was made telegraph editor and six months later he was made city editor. He held that position for two years and then assumed the city editorship of the "Pittsburg Press" which position he still occupies. In 1902 he was registered as a student at law with Floy C. Jones of Kittanning, Pa. He was admitted to the practice of law in September 1904. On November 10, 1904, he married Miss Evelyn McAdoo, of Bradford, Pa. He is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church of New Brighton.

James B. Edgar, the son of John P. and Mary A. Edgar, was born in New Brighton, Pa., April 10, 1872. He was educated in the public schools, and was employed in the drug business for five years, and is a qualified assistant. He enlisted at the outbreak of the Spanish-American War in Company B. 10th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served with the regiment in the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection



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under Col. A. L. Hawkins in the Philippines. He was honorably discharged June 5, 1900, and was elected County Auditor in November 1901, for a term of three years. He was a reporter on the "Tribune" in 1900 and 1901, for New Brighton and the lower valley towns.

Joseph G. Bliss was born in North Bridgewater, Beaver county, Pa., on Sunday September 20, 1868. He learned the printing trade in the office of the "Beaver Valley News" New Brighton, entering it in 1882, after which he went to work on the "Beaver Falls Journal," and later in 1889 on the "Tribune" of the same place, where he remained setting type until 1903, when he was appointed a reporter on the paper, which position he still holds, reporting the news of New Brighton. He is a charter member of Beaver Valley Typographical Union No. 250, previous to which organization he was a member of Pittsburg Union No. 7. He has served as president of his Union, and also as secretary, and has represented the organization as a delegate to the Central Labor Council. Mr. Bliss was a competent printer, and was regarded as one of the most rapid in this section, but acknowledges that when he ran up against the Linotype he was more than matched, and yielded his position for one that he fills satisfactorily.

Another reporter hailing from New Brighton, was Theodore C. Deitrich, who was born in that place, and learned the trade of printing in the "Beaver Valley News" office. He went to reporting on the "Tribune," and since has reported on leading papers in Pittsburg, New York and Chicago, holding important positions. He is now in Pittsburg.

Other reporters of whom we have failed to get sketches are, L. L. Carson, F. L. Parker, M. J. White, John Telford, Capt. M. B. Sloan, W. B. Ramsey, John Schreck, Hamp Newlon, H. C. Cuthbertson, George W.

Mackall, and doubtless some others who cannot now be recalled.

Of the printers native to the county, who have worked on the paper and are not mentioned in any of the papers, we recall Frank Mills, George Crouch, James Telford, Albert Hartung, Robert Bruce Jr., William Newlon, Joseph White, Ross Cunningham, Fred C. McClure, Mrs. George Early, Ed. Hope.

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### THE LIFE BOAT.

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In 1875, Linton S. Amberson started a paper with the above name, in connection with a job printing office. The paper was published in the interest of the Greenback movement, and supported Peter Cooper for President. He sold the paper in 1876 to Holmes & McDonald who continued the publication under the name of the "New Era" until 1877, when they sold out to persons who moved it to Pittsburg. Mr. Holmes was a Pittsburg man, and Addison McDonald was a son of the late J. V. McDonald, of Bridgewater.

Linton S. Amberson, son of the late Dr. T. B. Amberson of New Castle, Pa., was born in New Castle, Lawrence county, Pa., July 29, 1846; received his education in the public and special schools of New Castle; entered the office of the "Coal City Chronicle" New Castle, to learn his trade in the year 1858, that paper being under the management of Sutherland, Spear, Lazier and Vincent. He worked for the firm until the breaking out of the war, when the members of the firm enlisted, closing the office. He then worked for the other papers of New Castle, the "Journal," "Gazette," and "Courant,"

covering a number of years, then working on the press through the East and West, as compositor, solicitor and correspondent. About 1871 he was employed on the "McKeesport Times" and helped to put out the first issue, B. B. Courson proprietor; and the late Bartley Campbell, the great playwright, was editor at that time. About 1873 he was employed on the "Conservative" in Beaver, which was published in two rooms in the Old Union Hotel building; then went on the "Beaver County Press" New Brighton, and later on the "Beaver Valley News." Mr. Amberson is now engaged in the Art business with his three sons, in Covington, Ky.

In 1882, the "Beaver Falls Independent" was published by W. F. Hanrahan and Frank A. Lewis, who were succeeded by W. W. Shields, and soon after the paper was discontinued.

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## THE EVENING PEN.

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In April 1883, W. S. Fulkman went to work in the job printing office of Townsend & Co., Beaver Falls, where he remained for two years. While there he induced the firm to commence the publication of a small daily paper, and on the first Monday in June 1883, the first daily paper of Beaver Falls made its appearance, "The Evening Pen." The "Pen" was published from the office of Townsend & Co., but Mr. Fulkman was its originator and had charge of it. During the month of June it appeared every day, and then took a rest until the first of November, when it came out again and was published daily until February 18, 1884, at which time it was discontinued. It was supported entirely by advertising, being circulated

among the people free of charge. Mr. Fulkman continued at Townsend's as their job printer until March 17, 1885, when he was succeeded by the late Sim Dinsmore, formerly of Beaver.

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### GLOBE ADVERTISER.

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The "Globe Advertiser," a monthly paper, was published from 1875 to 1879 by the Globe Printing Company. Later it was changed to a weekly and published by W. C. Fessenden and John Rohm. Others connected with it from time to time were Ed. Hutchinson, G. W. Penn and John Mellon. A morning edition of the paper called the "Herald" was started by the Globe but soon after succumbed. Mr. Mellon later secured control of the weekly "Globe," and consolidated it with the "Beaver Star" in 1887, of which a more complete account appears in the history of the Beaver "Star."

John Mellon was the son of William and Mary J. Mellon of Beaver Falls. His father was a miller in that place for eight years, after which he operated a feed store. His paternal ancestors were Irish, who came to America in 1816, and his maternal ancestors were Scotch, among the pioneers of Westmoreland county, Pa. After retiring from the "Star," Mr. Mellon went to Florida for the benefit of his health, where he died. He engaged in newspaper work there for some time, until his health finally gave way. He was an intelligent and energetic worker, and did his part in making stronger and better the journalism of the county.

## SPRAY OF THE FALLS.

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On August 31, 1887, W. S. Fulkman went to Darlington, Pa., where he took notes of the services attending the dedication of the soldiers' monument at that place. Returning to his home in New Brighton he wrote a very full account of the dedication, which, together with a picture of the monument, formed the chief feature in the first number of a new paper he had decided to publish. This paper was called "Spray of the Falls," and was issued monthly, the first number coming out in September, 1887. It took with the people from the start. The "Spray of the Falls" went to the townships and villages for its support, and made itself popular in those sections by publishing the local news of each neighborhood where it circulated. It also secured some circulation in Beaver Falls and New Brighton, and by the end of its first year had 1,035 actual paid subscribers, every one of which had been secured personally by Mr. Fulkman. In addition to securing the circulation, he had also edited the "Spray" and looked after all of its business affairs.

In September 1888, beginning with the second year, he changed the "Spray of the Falls" from a monthly to a weekly, and started out with a circulation of 1,200. The load becoming too heavy for Mr. Fulkman to carry alone, as his capital was small, he endeavored to organize a limited stock company to publish the "Spray" and do a general printing business. He interested Dr. H. H. George, president of Geneva College, in the project, also J. L. McCartney of the same institution, and through these gentlemen he was placed in communication with

George Warrington, of Birmingham, Iowa, who later came to Beaver Falls on a tour of inspection. After his arrival the preliminary steps for the organization of a stock company were taken, Mr. Warrington subscribing \$500.00, Prof. McCartney \$500.00, and Dr. George subscribed \$150.00 for his son, M. M. George; \$600.00 was to be allowed for the paper and good will, \$250.00 of which was to go to the payment of outstanding bills, and \$350.00 was to be allotted to Mr. Fulkman in stock in the new company. Officers were elected, an attorney instructed to secure a charter, and everything looked favorable on the evening of October 18, 1888. The next morning Mr. Warrington came to the office of the "Spray" quite early, and announced his intention of withdrawing from the proposed company. He took the next train for the West, and the effort to organize a stock company fell. Mr. Fulkman continued the "Spray of the Falls" a few weeks longer, when he was compelled to dispose of it, and it was transferred to John H. Telford of the Beaver Falls "Tribune."

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### BEAVER FALLS REVIEW.

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In June 1888, J. E. McClure and J. W. Carson formed a company and started the Beaver Falls "Evening Journal." During the same year Geo. Warrington began the publication of a monthly paper named the "Psalm Singer." In 1889 Mr. Warrington, W. S. Fulkman, John W. Carson and L. L. Carson became owners of the "Journal," and in addition to the daily, began the publication of a weekly edition which made its appearance August 15, 1889. Mr. Fulkman undertook the

contract of securing 2,000 subscribers for the "Journal," and went to New Galilee with the first issue, where he secured the hotel keeper as the first subscriber. Mr. Fulkman continued his canvass of the county, making a very thorough one, and also acting as news editor of the "Journal." He completed the canvass the latter part of December 1890, actually securing the two thousand subscribers in one year and four months. He continued to edit the local part of the paper until April 20, 1891, when he severed his connection with the "Journal," sold his stock in the company to Geo. W. Pyle of New Galilee, and went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he started the "Ohio Home."

Mr. Warrington became the sole owner in 1890 of the paper, conducting it until 1892, when it passed into the hands of J. H. Irons and Smith Curtis. In 1892-93, L. L. Carson started the "Daily Recorder," publishing it from the "Argus and Radical" office, which was short lived. In 1894 J. W. Carson and the Broadbent brothers purchased J. H. Irons' interest and the daily edition was discontinued. In 1895, Smith Curtis started the Daily "Radical" in the "Journal" plant, but it too proved unsuccessful and passed out of existence. In the spring of 1896 a company of New Castle newspaper men bought out the plant and started the "Daily Republican," which was discontinued in September of the same year. J. W. Carson purchased the good will of the paper and continued the weekly edition, which was changed in name to the "Review" in 1897. It has been successful and continues under Mr. Carson's management.

John W. Carson was born in Bloomfield, Jefferson county, O., April 30, 1857, of Scotch-Irish parentage. His father, James Carson, served in the British army for twelve years prior to coming to America in 1853. In the Civil War he entered an Ohio regiment in 1863, and served to the close of the war. He was in the govern-

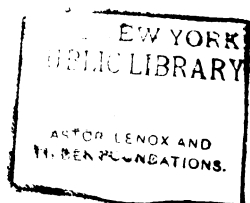
ment service two years prior to this, and with his family was stationed at Kanawha Falls, West Virginia, and they were in the famous Lightburn retreat, which resulted in ex-Governor Wise gaining possession of that portion of Western Virginia. Before enlisting in the Civil War, Mr. Carson bought a farm in Ohio and moved his family thereto. The subject of this sketch was the eldest of four children, and upon him devolved the duties of caring for the farm, although he had hardly reached the age when children are admitted to the public schools in these days. The experience gained during those trying times proved of inestimable value to him in after years, teaching self reliance, and giving him a true estimate of that which goes to make true manhood. The few winter terms which Mr. Carson attended the district schools made up his schooling. When in later years the necessity of an education dawned upon him, he sought to obtain it, and in a measure succeeded by a course of private instruction and home study. The taste for reading developed early in life, and literature became more and more the aim and object of his subsequent efforts. At the age of twelve he began to work in a cooper shop and, excepting six months spent in New York City, continued at that trade for fourteen years. He began the study of law in Youngstown, O., in 1878, which was continued for nearly three years, but was abandoned for newspaper work on the "Daily News" of that city, in which calling he has since been engaged. In 1880 Mr. Carson was married to Miss Lyda G. Robinson of Niles, Ohio. To this union were born two sons, James H. and Charles B. Carson. In 1885, he moved to Beaver Falls and shortly afterwards became a reporter on the "Tribune," and the local correspondent of the Pittsburgh and New York papers. Mr. Carson is a member of the M. E. Church, which he joined in 1873 at Bellaire, O. In newspaper work he is a firm believer in the theory that





J. W. CARSON

J. H. CARSON



the men who make newspapers have an important duty to perform; that the calling itself is a dignified one; and that the personality of a writer cannot be wholly overlooked in what he writes; that the press wields as a whole an influence for good; and the public therefore recognizes the fact that the men thus engaged should be men of high character, whether they are news gatherers, or occupy the editorial chair. The success of the "Review" he believes is due largely to the faith he has in this principle, and the circumstances which placed his paper in the hands of those who believe as he does. Mr. Carson was elected to the State Legislature of his state in November 1904, and enjoys the esteem of his fellow citizens of all parties.

The foreman of the office at the present is Henry Hartung, and Charles E. Evans is compositor, with Elmer Rosenbauer and Palmer apprentices. J. H. Carson is manager of the paper and Miss Ada Kurtz is in the office.



## CHAPTER VII.

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### THE BEAVER TIMES.

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The "Beaver Times" came into existence the spring following the consolidation of the "Argus" and the "Radical," and was fathered by the veteran editor, Michael Weyand, who resumed journalism after a long retirement. The initial number was dated April 2, 1874, and was a nine column four page paper, well printed and of necessity well edited. Mr. Weyand was unquestionably one of the ablest writers in the history of Beaver county journalism, his writing partaking largely of the style of his speaking to the public, straight to the point, clear and not too verbose, with a vein of humor that made most excellent reading.

The editor was not particularly in love with the aims and purposes of the "Argus and Radical" politically, so there was a good margin for differences, and the opportunity was not permitted to be lost and there appeared some strong articles, descriptive of its opinion of the political conduct of those backing the old paper.

The "Times" secured a strong foothold in the country districts particularly, and had a strong following politically.

The following editorial in the first number of the new paper, saluted its readers and immediately attracted the attention of the people:

"When we took leave of editorial life thirteen or fourteen years ago, we supposed it to be a final one. For reasons, neither necessary nor profitable to enumerate, we come back to the old life again, and without volunteering any very specific pledges as to what we propose to do, or promise not to do, we simply say that we embark in the present undertaking with no private schemes to work out, and no personal animosities to gratify, but because we believe the public interests and the necessities of the Republican organization in this county, demand such a step.

"We propose to labor for the common good, rather than for individuals, or individual ends—to aid in the development of the varied resources of the county, and for the augmentation of its material wealth—to urge all parties to select none but trustworthy men for public positions—to seek to bridge over the divisions that unfortunately exist in the party to which we belong—to root out some of the evil practices that have well nigh destroyed our ascendancy in the county—and to do what we can to bring the party back to a position at least of the standing and efficiency it possessed, in its earlier and better days, when under the lead of Agnew, Dickey, Lawrence, the Henrys and Roberts.

"With this brief summary of the objects we have in view—in the language of that illustrious man, whose life went out so suddenly and tragically and who sleeps the martyr's sleep in the quiet of his Western home—'With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the Right, as God gives us to see the right'—we launch our bark upon the newspaper sea, soliciting support only as we shall merit it, and content to rise or fall, as a reasonable public may determine, we deserve either the one or the other.

"Now, therefore, with hat off, and hand extended, we greet our brethren of the press, of all political per-

suasions, feeling somewhat awkward in our new position—or rather in the resumption of the old relation—but when the harness becomes a little better adjusted, we expect to jog along quietly and unassumingly as becomes a well-behaved rural editor. We expect to encroach upon no rights belonging to others. We shall look neither to the right nor the left, but pursuing a straight-forward, independent course, expressing our opinions fairly, fully, fearlessly, on all questions of public interest—sounding the alarm to our party friends, when there is danger ahead, and exposing that which ought to be exposed, whether found in high places or in low, whether in our own or in the opposite political organization. When we have occasion to differ with our editorial brethren, as we doubtless often will, we expect to do so in the right spirit, and in the use of decorous language. With then, this partial renewal of old acquaintanceship, we fall into line, and are ready to use and be used as in times past.”

The failure to find a file of the “Times” renders it now impossible to reproduce more of the strong editorials that Mr. Weyand wrote and published. He was an uncompromising Republican, of the independent stripe, sound to the core on the questions of protection, the party’s financial policy, internal improvements, and whatever would benefit local interests. The paper was morally clean, and was a good example of the best quality of country journalism, and it was a welcome visitor to hundreds of good homes in the county.

In all his long career he never had a libel suit, though he made scores and hundreds of persons writhe under his denunciations and criticisms. He was threatened with libel suits, and the sword of vengeance was held over his editorial head a number of times, but no action was ever taken to put him on trial.

He had bitter controversies with many of the most prominent men of the county, and especially in the Know

Nothing movement he met the combined strength of the ablest and best men of the county, most of whom were his personal friends, but he hewed to the mark and continued on his way. In his controversies with the "Argus and Radical," and the influence that backed it, he was fully in his element, and laid on the scourge until the blood fairly ran. But under this apparent bitterness of spirit, this flaying of political enemies, there was a warm nature that attracted friends by the hundreds, and made the "Old Man of the Times" popular in the county.

Mr. Weyand is perhaps the longest in newspaper work of any one in Western Pennsylvania. He is the oldest in service as an editor in Beaver county, having served as such eight years on the "Argus" and twenty-six years on the "Times." Next to him is F. S. Reader of the "Beaver Valley News," who is completing his thirty-first year as editor of that paper, the longest in continuous service on one paper, of any editor ever in the county.

Mr. Weyand's chief assistant in conducting the paper, was his son Henry S. Weyand, who was born in Beaver and educated in the common school and college in that town. At the age of 16 he went into the "Argus" office to learn the trade, under the foremanship of Maj. John B. Butler. After leaving the "Argus" worked on the "New Castle Journal," when it was owned and edited by Hon. David Sankey. Afterwards he worked in the job office of McCallister, Jackson and McEwen, Pittsburg, until the advent of the "Times," when he went to work on it as a compositor with John Tallon as foreman. Upon Mr. Tallon's retirement he took charge of the mechanical department of the "Times," with Frank Tallon, James Grove, H. A. Sutherland, George Walters, D. S. McConnel, D. S. Griffin, D. E. Weyand, John Stewart, Will Diven, Bert Fogg and John Caughey as compositors and apprentices at various times. In 1889 he left the

"Times" to take a position as proof reader in the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., which position he is still holding.

Mr. Weyand made much of country correspondence, having excellent writers in different parts of the county, who kept up the interest among the people. His long experience in the county, beginning over sixty-five years ago in newspaper work, gave him a knowledge of people and events, that have afforded many reminiscences. In a paper read by Mr. Weyand, he gave some of these, which have been listened to with amusement and interest.

His references to the "tramp printer" in his article recalled some scenes that the newspapers of today know but little of. One of the institutions of the business was the nomads of the craft, who claimed no fixed abode, but were as much at home in one place as another, many of whom in their travels had worked on nearly all the principal papers of the country, and on their rounds incidentally called at most of the smaller villages, their journeys being made on foot, and in later years by "beating trains." These "tramp printers" or "tourists" as they were facetiously called, had but little in common with the tramp of this generation, who is an object of disgust and derision. They were merely "devil may care," jolly good fellows, with considerable intellectual ability, and many of them past masters in their art, rather too much addicted to the flowing bowl in many cases, and too restless to become reliable six days a week workmen, who cared nothing for the morrow. This life was often kept up for years, when many of them tired after a time, and settled down to steady lives, filling important positions and rearing families. In their travels they had become familiar with their trade as it was followed in the best offices of the country, and hence became valuable workmen. Of the tramp printers who dropped in on the Beaver county papers periodically,



there were some bright fellows. Seating themselves at ease in the sanctum, they would write up some squib of experience on the road, or some local matter that fell under their eyes, and hand in for publication which was generally accepted. Some of them were regular callers, though their visits might be one or more years apart, and were always welcome as a part of the business. Recounting anecdotes of their trips and bits of adventure, they were often pleasant callers, but it was only for a day or two at the most. A few hours at the case, an interchange with the "boys" in the composing room and office, they would gather up a supply of papers, and pass on to New Castle, Wheeling or Pittsburg, as fancy directed, care free and apparently as happy as larks.

Mr. Weyand relates the following two interesting incidents, typical of the class, and two only out of many others: One a very brilliant but erratic genius, Abijah Baker, by name, but who passed as "Bije" for short. After one of his calls here, drifted to Canton, Ohio, where some of the prominent citizens of that place became so impressed with his more than ordinary ability, that they bought him a complete newspaper outfit, and guaranteed him a liberal salary, if he would abide with them. After staying there a few months, and giving that section of Ohio some of the brightest editorials they had ever been accustomed to, he tired of the restraint that was on him, took to the road again and that was the last ever heard of him in this section.

There was another, whose genius ran chiefly to poetry, or doggerel rather, and who always timed his periodical visits so as to get into the Saint's Rest on a Saturday night, in order to be with the festive printers over Sunday. His first query, on facing the boys was, if they had anything to drink stronger than water; and when a well filled flask was handed him, he would drain it to the bottom, and handing back the empty flask, would

exclaim—"Were'nt I dry." On his last visit here, he dropped the following verse as a kind of last farewell:

"At the sound of the trump  
Give yourself a hump,  
And be ready to jump  
And take up your baggage and go."

And that was the last ever seen or heard of our doggerel printer friend in this vicinity.

In February 1898, Michael Weyand disposed of the paper to Gilbert A. Hays, of Sewickley, and on September 22 of the same year, Mr. Hays assigned his interests to the Beaver Publishing Company, and Mr. Weyand was retained as editor until January 1, 1900, when he was appointed postmaster of Beaver, and is now serving his second term in that office. The "Times" was continued solely as a weekly until April 27, 1899, when a daily edition was started, with J. L. Deming general manager, and M. Weyand editor. It was an eight column four page paper, and was a very creditable number. Mr. Deming came from Bethany, W. Va., and took hold of the work energetically, but retired after some months service.

Hon. Henry Hice is the president of the Beaver Publishing Company, holding that position from the beginning.

Judge Hice is a native of Beaver county, born in Hopewell township January 24, 1834. He studied law in 1857 with Col. Richard P. Roberts, and was admitted to the Bar of Beaver county in June 1859. He entered into partnership with Col. Roberts, which continued until the latter was killed at Gettysburg. Judge Hice was appointed President Judge of the new Thirti-sixth Judicial District, of which his county was a part, April 30, 1874, and was elected for the following term, in which he served with ability and acceptability, until January 1,



H. D. ANDERSON

J. D. EDMONDS

MISS HATTIE BRITTAIN

C. O. DENTZER

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1885, when he returned to the practice of law. He has been for many years the legal adviser of the Pittsburg & Lake Erie Railroad and the Harmony Society, and has been closely identified with the business interests of the county. He has the confidence of the people in every respect.

The new daily started on its career with the following address to the people: "Today the 'Times' greets the readers of the Beaver Valley in a new form. It begins its daily mission of faithfully giving the news of the world pro and con. Every effort will be made to give a faithful accounting of the happenings of the valley, its proper field and sphere. It is with some reluctance that we force upon the reading public the present issue, but if all will bide with us a while, we promise to do much better. The stride from a weekly to a daily is a big one, and requires much effort on the part of every one connected with the force. You see us as we feel and think. Our pulsations as depicted in our columns will be full and free. Nothing will be allowed to clog the free course of our thought. In politics we are Republican; in news we are cosmopolitan. With such mixture of blood running through our veins, we cannot help but please the masses. Bear and forbear are two 'animals' that can be easily tamed and cultivated. We ask our readers to bear with us and we will forbear in all things critical. As our aim is for the advancement of party and community, we ask all our readers to consider our columns theirs. News, no matter from what source it comes, if legitimate, is always acceptable. It is with the feelings of a college graduate, when he makes his first appearance on the world's stage, that we greet you today. We are here to stay, and home and party is our watch-word."

J. L. Deming was succeeded as general manager by T. S. Laughlin, formerly business manager of the "Argus

and Radical," who resigned January 1, 1901, and Robert La Ross of New Brighton, was appointed to the position, who had charge until his death in 1903. He came from the central part of the State, and had considerable experience in the work, bringing to it enthusiasm and intelligence. After his death, H. Dwight Anderson was appointed to the position, which he has held since.

Mr. Anderson was born at Rochester June 17, 1868, in a house but two squares removed from the one he now occupies. The love of the newspaper business was inspired in him when but a boy ten years of age, he watched the press running in the office of the Salem (O.) "Republican." At thirteen years of age he left school which he was attending at Bridgewater, to accept a position as apprentice in the office of the "Argus and Radical" at Beaver. He remained with this paper for several years; left it to accept a position with Barrows & Osborne, city printers of Pittsburg, and later took charge of the "Argus and Radical" job rooms. Later he was foreman of the job rooms of Townsend & Co., of Beaver Falls, and of the Star Publishing Company of Beaver. In 1890 he engaged in the job printing business with his brother Frank L. Anderson, at Rochester, in which business they continued until 1896, when their plant was merged with that of the "Johnstown Theocrat," a church newspaper conducted at Johnstown, Pa., by the Rev. M. L. Weaver. They remained at Johnstown until 1897, when Mr. Anderson returned to Rochester, and with Richard W. Stiffey Esq., of Beaver, and William Lutz of Bridgewater, founded the "Commoner" which is still published at Rochester by the Commoner Publishing Company. In 1898 he sold his interest in the "Commoner" to Mr. Stiffey. In the early part of 1899 Mr. Anderson was offered and accepted a position as reporter on the daily "Times," preparations for the publishing of which were being carried on by the

first general manager J. L. Deming. Mr. Anderson first covered the Beaver Falls-New Brighton district, was later transferred to the Beaver-Bridgewater district, and later to the Rochester-Monaca district, where he remained until his appointment as general manager. He was united in marriage on April 15, 1890, to Miss Dell A. Troup daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Troup, of West Bridgewater. One child a daughter, Miss Dell Laureame Anderson was born on February 25, 1893. Mr. Anderson is a member of the First Congregational Church of Rochester, and is first assistant superintendent of the Sunday School.

Upon the retirement of Michael Weyand as editor of the paper, Ellis N. Bigger Esq. was editorial writer until his death in July 1902. After his death Robert La Ross held the position in connection with general manager, and since his death the office has not been filled.

Mr. Bigger was born in Hanover township, Washington county, Pa., in 1856, his parents being Thomas and Mary Nicholson Bigger. His parents moved to Beaver county while he was a boy; he attended the public schools and the Frankfort Academy; later taught in the district schools and as assistant principal of the Frankfort Academy; studied law with Samuel B. Wilson Esq., and was admitted to the Beaver county Bar June 2, 1879. He practiced law for a while with Frank Wilson Esq. deceased, and in 1883 formed a partnership with Thomas M. Henry Esq., which lasted for several years. Mr. Bigger was a good speaker and writer. At the time of his death, June 15, 1902, he was solicitor for the County Commissioners, and had held other positions of honor and trust.

Associated with Mr. Anderson as advertising manager is J. D. Edmonds of Beaver. The staff of reporters includes Charles O. Dentzer of Rochester, who represents

the "Times" on the Rochester-Monaca district; W. Russell Harris of Beaver, reporter on the Beaver-Bridgewater district; W. C. Hamilton of New Brighton, reporter on the New Brighton district, and E. T. Corbus of Beaver Falls, reporter on the Beaver Falls district. W. C. Eaton of Beaver, is city editor, and Miss Harriett Brittain of Beaver Falls, is bookkeeper.

The force in the mechanical department includes J. Mays Ecoff of Beaver, linotype operator; John C. Clark of Beaver, foreman of the composing room; Frank L. Anderson of Bridgewater, foreman of the job department, and Frank Boyde of Beaver, who is in charge of the setting of advertisements. The press feeders include Miss Clinton of Beaver Falls, Oscar Bradley of Bridgewater, and Burwood Hanson of Beaver.

The company recently installed a complete outfit of new machinery in the "Times" press room, including a high speed, double feed Dispatch press, manufactured by the Babcock Printing Press Manufacturing Company, of New London, Conn. This press will print and fold a seven column quarto at a speed of 2600 an hour, without the necessity of stereotyping the forms.

One of the reporters of the paper, who has lately come to the county is William R. Harris, who began his newspaper career in 1898, as errand boy on the "Daily Crisis" East Liverpool, O., where he remained three years; thence went on the "News Democrat," at Canton, O., and later took temporary charge of the "Daily Times," now the "Daily Gleanor," at Massillon, O. In the early part of 1903, he began his career as a reporter, working on the "News Democrat," at Canton, on the Wellsville (O.) "Daily Record," and the East Liverpool (O.) "News Review" and "Crisis"; and has been employed in Beaver since March 1904.



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MONACA HERALD.

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The "Monaca Herald" began its existence November 13, 1903, with George A. Jones editor and manager, subscription price \$1 per year, a seven column four page paper, well printed and a creditable local paper.

The following from the editor's initial words to the people, will show the object in starting the paper: "Upon entering the field of journalism, done after a long consideration, we are determined to give to Monaca, Aliquippa and the six townships south of the Ohio river, in Beaver county, the prominence and the opportunities that can only be secured through the influence and use of the press. We do not want to advance the idea that the county papers have ignored, or forgotten us, but the fact that north of the river is a territory very thickly populated, and closely connected by a net work of railroads, naturally unites their sympathies through social and business intercourse, resulting in the practical isolation, in many respects, of this district. We do not want to infer that this is intentional, but occasioned because most of this territory is composed of a farming district and cannot be reached without great difficulty and expense. These conditions we hope to be able to overcome to some extent, by devoting our time and talent to the interest of this district, and with this thought in view, we send out the first number of the "Monaca Herald," which we hope the citizens will help us in making the representative of our interests and advancement."

## CHAPTER VIII.

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### NEW BRIGHTON PAPERS.

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The first settlement in New Brighton so far as can now be ascertained, was by John Wolf, who purchased tract No. 95 in 1799 and built a flouring mill on it, near the present dam where the Tenth street bridge crosses the river. It was probably the first mill of any kind east of the Beaver river in the county, and to it men came from a distance of over thirty miles, even from east of Pittsburg, over a single path cut through the forest large enough for a horse and rider to pass. It was operated until 1820, and remained standing until the canal was dug.



VIEW OF BRIGHTON DAM.

In 1815 a plan of lots was laid out on tract No. 94, which led to the name of the town. By an Act of Assembly of March 20, 1810, a company was incorporated under the name, style and title of "The President, Managers and Company for erecting a bridge over Big Beaver creek opposite the town of Brighton," where the overhead bridge now stands. If erected where laid out it would not be opposite Brighton (now Beaver Falls) but in a township, and in order to conform to the charter, the name of East Brighton was given to the plan of lots surveyed on tract No. 94, and thus the eastern end of the bridge was built opposite (East) Brighton, which in time was changed and incorporated in 1838 as New Brighton.



SCENE ON OLD CANAL.

In 1828 the flouring mill known as the Quaker Mill, was erected some distance below the bridge, and in the year 1836 began the building of factories below it, which increased rapidly from that time on, and other tracts on which the town is located were laid out in lots. In 1831 work was begun on the canal through the town and gave an impetus to trade and commerce, and later a branch of the United States bank, was established, which provided plenty of funds, as long as they lasted, for pushing business, and there was a boom in trade, but New Brighton was dependent on Fallston for its newspapers, as it was for a postoffice.

The Quaker element was the dominant one in the town, and gave it that stability, conservatism, and love of liberty which has characterized it ever since. Here was the underground railway, with its true and trusted agents who helped runaway slaves on their way to freedom; temperance society, the Beaver County Institute for the promotion of science and literature, female seminaries, and other institutions.



U. S. BANK BUILDING.

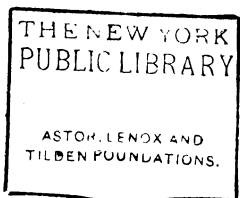
The want of a newspaper was severely felt after the inauguration of the industrial period. The Fallston papers had done their work and passed away, and there was not a paper in any part of the valley outside of Beaver, after 1841, for a period of about thirteen years, when one was started in New Brighton.

In all the towns from the mouth of the Beaver to Beaver Falls, New Brighton was the last one in which a paper was started, all the others preceding it by a dozen years and more, but unlike the other towns, except Beaver, when the first paper was given the people, the succession was continued in some form and under some name, with but little break, until the present time.



H. PALMER  
T. C. DEITRICH  
H. A. SUTHERLAND

C. R. FRANK  
J. H. TAYLOR  
OPERA BLOCK AFTER FIRE



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## NEW BRIGHTON RECORD.

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In May 1854, Dr. D. H. B. Brower and W. T. Purviance, began the publication of the "New Brighton Record." Dr. Brower was a well known gentleman of his day, and is yet remembered by many of the older residents of our valley. Mr. Purviance was a daguerreotype artist, having a studio in Bridgewater, where he advertised in the "Argus" as early as October 1, 1851. But little is known of the paper, but few copies being in existence, and none now being available.

The paper passed from active life April 23, 1856, when John Cuthbertson Esq. assignee, published the following notice in the "Argus:" "Take notice that William T. Purviance of the borough of New Brighton, has made an assignment of a certain printing press, book accounts and the material used in publishing the 'New Brighton Record' etc." In another notice in the same paper, the assignee announces that the presses, type, etc., would be sold at the "Record" office May 10, 1856. Nothing further is known of the paper.

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## THE YOUNG AMERICAN.

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In the "Argus" of February 7, 1855, the following notice appeared: "The 'Young American' is the name of a newspaper. under control of Dr. D. H. B. Brower, late of the 'New Brighton Record.' It is published simultaneously at New Brighton and Pittsburg, and devoted to the advocacy of the principles of the new

American party." From this it is evident that Dr. Brower had retired from the "Record" long before its death. Nothing further is known of the "Young American."

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### NEW BRIGHTON TIMES.

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W. H. Johnston of Butler, Pa., started the "New Brighton Times" October 21, 1857. It was a very neat and attractive paper, but was short lived, suspending publication in the latter part of the same year, or early in January 1858.

It was revived by William B. Lemmon of Butler, Pa. He had an interest in the "Butler American," which he sold to his partner Mr. Haslett in January 1858, and on the 21st of the same month began the publication of the "Times," retaining the same name.

William B. Lemmon was born in Lancaster county, Pa., December 9, 1809, and died June 25, 1879. He moved to Butler in early life, where he was educated, and taught school in that county. Later he went to Allegheny and learned the tinning trade, and went back to Butler county. At one time he worked in the old Car building of New Brighton, operating a hydraulic press. After the suspension of his paper he worked for some time in Merrick's foundry.

The "Times" was published in the old Shuster building, now the location of the Beaver County Trust building. In the "Argus" of March 10, 1865, a notice states that W. S. Morlan Esq. had opened an office under the



"Times" office. The paper was discontinued probably in this year. It was a strong supporter of the Government in the Civil War, and did its share of faithful work in that cause.

In the issue of the "Times" Oct. 9, 1862, the following notice is found: "Died, on the battlefield of Antietam the 17th of September 1862, Robert W. Lemmon of Company H, Ninth Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, in the 28th year of his age. The subject of this notice was a printer, and in the spring of 1861 editor of the 'New Brighton Times,' being the son of its proprietor, W. B. Lemmon. He was born near Butler, Pa., on the 10th day of November 1834. \* \* \* W. M. Lemmon a younger brother of deceased, formerly, but not then in the office, enlisted at the same time, and is now in the Army of the West, making five printers from the 'Times' office in the army. In consequence of the whole force leaving, the paper was suspended for nine months."

One of the apprentices on the paper for eighteen months, was Harry Palmer, who became one of the best newspaper men in this section. He was born at Mount Zion, Clearfield county, Pa., December 22, 1843. He was a son of Rev. Henry Palmer, a Methodist minister, his father and mother were pioneers in Northern Pennsylvania. He enlisted in Company H, Ninth Pennsylvania Reserves in the month of April 1861; enlisted for "three years or during the war" in the month of May 1861, at "Camp Wright," up the Allegheny river; reached Washington City just after the first battle of Bull Run; took part in the battle of Drainesville, the first victory won by the Army of the Potomac; shot through the body at the battle of Gaines' Mill, front of Richmond; prisoner of war 45 days, confined in Crew's tobacco warehouse and on Belle Island; paroled with "desperately wounded"; off duty 10 months; rejoined regiment night

before the first Fredericksburg fight; captured by Gen. White's guerillas on Meade's Mine Run advance; served almost a year in Andersonville, Savannah, Charleston jail yard and other Southern prisons, and gained liberty by assuming the name of a dead sailor, Wm. Morrison, as a special parole of sailors had been agreed upon between the Federal and Confederate Secretaries of the Navy. His regiment had been discharged several months before his release, and he reached home as one risen from the dead. Served in the Civil War 3 years and 7 months. He served in the Spanish-American War as Color Bearer of the Tenth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, U. S. Infantry; took part in the battle of Malate, below Manila, on the night of July 31, 1898, and morning of August 1, 1898; also in the engagement on the 13th of August 1898, when the U. S. forces captured Manila; had charge of the sharpshooters of the Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment on the morning of the 1st of August, at Malate, and was commended by Colonel A. L. Hawkins for the good work of his men. Discharge papers, signed by his Colonel, read as follows: "Character excellent, and a model soldier." He was over 12 years in the service of the "Pittsburg Chronicle" as printer and solicitor; nine years with "The Beaver Valley News" as advertising solicitor; one year as manager of the "Daily Herald" McKeesport, Pa., nine years as owner and manager of "The East Liverpool News Review;" now located at Long Beach, Los Angeles county, Cal., with The Pacific Real Estate Company, Palmer, Cate & Co.



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## BEAVER FALLS NEW ERA

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February 28, 1866, O. P. Wharton printed a paper in Allegheny, Pa., and dated it at New Brighton, called the "Beaver Falls New Era." Mr. Wharton was afterward with the "Local" at Beaver. In starting this venture he said: "In commencing the publication of the "Beaver Falls New Era," the publisher can make no promises, save the fact that it will endeavor to ascertain and tell the truth on every subject of which it may treat—and it will be continued so long as it pays expenses and no longer." The last notice of it was March 21, 1866, and evidently it was of short life, and doubtless full of sorrow.

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## NEW BRIGHTON HERALD

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The "New Brighton Herald" was established July 14, 1869, by Capt. G. S. McKee of Alliance, O., and Dr. N. M. Wilson of Lancaster, Pa. It was neutral in politics and was well filled with local and other reading matter. Capt. McKee was interested in the "Democrat" at Alliance, and retired from the "Herald" October 20, 1869, to devote all his time to the paper there. Upon his retirement, Thomas J. Morgan, a young man of some experience in newspaper work, became foreman. He was from Carrolton, O., and remained foreman until

his death January 8, 1871. The "Herald" put on a new dress January 19, 1870, and the name was changed to the "Beaver Valley Herald."

Dr. Wilson sold his interest in the paper to Major J. B. Hays of Meadville, Pa., November 1870, and afterward moved to Philadelphia, Pa., where he was engaged in practicing medicine until his death.

W. E. Burton, brother of Thomp. Burton, was a compositor on the paper. While here he married Miss Lida Oldham, one of the public school teachers, and he was in later years publisher and manager of the mechanical department of "Brick Pomeroy's Democrat" of New York City, in which Thomp. Burton was a partner for a while.

J. F. McCaughtry was an apprentice and worked on job work. He was born September 1857, and at the age of 13, entered the office of the "Beaver Local" as an apprentice, where he remained one year and was then employed by McKee & Wilson of the "Herald," staying there a short time and then accepted a position in the "Courier" office at Youngstown, O. He worked there for a year and returned to New Brighton and was in the office of the "Beaver County Press," Major J. B. Hays proprietor. His next move was again to Youngstown, where he had charge of the job department of the "Tribune," and later took charge of the job department of the "Vindicator" that place, under the management of N. L. Brown, now of the New York "News," where he remained until 1887. He then accepted a position as traveling salesman for the Cleveland Paper Co., and was in their employ for about five years, when he associated himself with twelve large paper mills as their general representative, and sold all kinds of paper for these mills to June 28, 1897, when he was made division manager of the Pittsburg division, for the International

Paper Co., going with the company when it was formed, and has continued in that capacity ever since. He now enjoys a very large trade, and has the name of selling one of the largest volumes of business, of any one other paper salesman of this country. He has made a close study of the paper business, and has been very successful, having the reputation when in the printing business, of being one of the best experts in Ohio, and received many a compliment on the work he turned out. Mr. McCaughtry was educated in the old McKinley school house in Chippewa township, Beaver county, Pa., and there earned the first money he ever received, by building fires, and keeping the school house clean, at the salary of four dollars for the term, or one dollar a month. When he entered the employ of the Beaver "Local," he received \$50 a year and his boarding. By his own efforts, his untiring industry, and his complete knowledge of his business, he has reached a position where his yearly earnings will amount to more than the value of the entire plant of the old "Local." Mr. McCaughtry is one of the most popular salesmen that has ever been in the trade in this section, and when he used to make his regular rounds among the printing offices, he was always a welcome visitor, and his reliability in his sales gave him a standing that has made his trade a sure one. He holds contracts for supplying paper, to every one of the daily papers of Pittsburg.

Another apprentice who has attained a prominent place among New Brighton business men, is Harry L. Schweppe, the enterprising and reliable pharmacist, who has been located for many years in the "News" building. Dr. Wilson proprietor of the "Herald" while in New Brighton, boarded with Patterson Mitchell, Mr. Schweppe's grandfather.

## BEAVER COUNTY PRESS.

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The "Herald" office was then in the McLaughlin building where the O. H. Couch building now stands on Third avenue. The office was destroyed by fire February 13, 1871, the fire taking place about 11 o'clock at night. Christopher O'Rourke a prominent contractor of the town, raised some money among his friends to start the paper again, which with the insurance money received, enabled Major Hays to resume publication March 24, 1871, under the name of the "Beaver County Press."

He had a splendid outfit, probably the best ever in the county to that time, consisting of a Cottrell & Babcock power cylinder press, a large job press, a large quantity of body and display type, sufficient and to spare to run a large paper and do a great amount of job work.

His foreman in the new office was Samuel K. Alexander, with W. P. Dorsey compositor and J. F. McCaughtry apprentice, pressman and job printer. I. N. Jones was a compositor on the paper, William Hamilton of Beaver Falls, later a druggist, was an apprentice, and D. F. Daniels was the last apprentice on the paper. The new office was in what is called the Park building, 811 Third avenue, in the second story of the building.

The "Press" was a good local paper for that day, equal to the best, and the office had a large amount of job printing. The paper went along with varying fortunes until January 14, 1874, when it was discontinued. Afterward the material was sold by the Sheriff, and was bought in by J. C. Hays of Meadville, father of Major Hays, the latter going to New York City where he wrote for some of the papers.



J. F. MCCAUGHTRY

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## BEAVER VALLEY NEWS.

The "Beaver Valley News" was established May 22, 1874, by Major David Critchlow and Francis S. Reader, who bought the material of the "Beaver County Press." The outfit consisted of a Cottrell & Babcock cylinder press, a large job press and a large quantity of type, sufficient for any possible use.

Major Critchlow was business manager of the paper. He was very popular with his old army comrades and the people generally, and he soon built up a good circulation, the paper paying expenses from the start. He was Major of the 100th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, known as the Roundheads, and had a specially good military record. After the Civil War was over he engaged in business as a member of the firm of Miner & Co., who were in business as lumber dealers and saw mill and planing mill operators. He was also a teacher of vocal music, possessing a rarely beautiful voice, and was in demand as a singer in the churches and at social meetings, as well as in political meetings, where his voice was inspiring in rendering patriotic songs. He married Caroline, daughter of Mr. John Miner, one of the most prominent business men and citizens of the valley. After retiring from the "News," the Major engaged in the lumber business in West Virginia, where he died. He was a candidate for Congress in 1874, and carried his own county, but failed in the District nomination.

F. S. Reader was editor of the paper from the beginning. Having a taste for writing, he found this opportunity of gratifying it, and entered ardently on the work. He was then Chief Deputy Collector of Internal

Revenue of the District, and used his unemployed time in gathering news and writing, combining the work of editor and reporter, then the only writer on the paper.

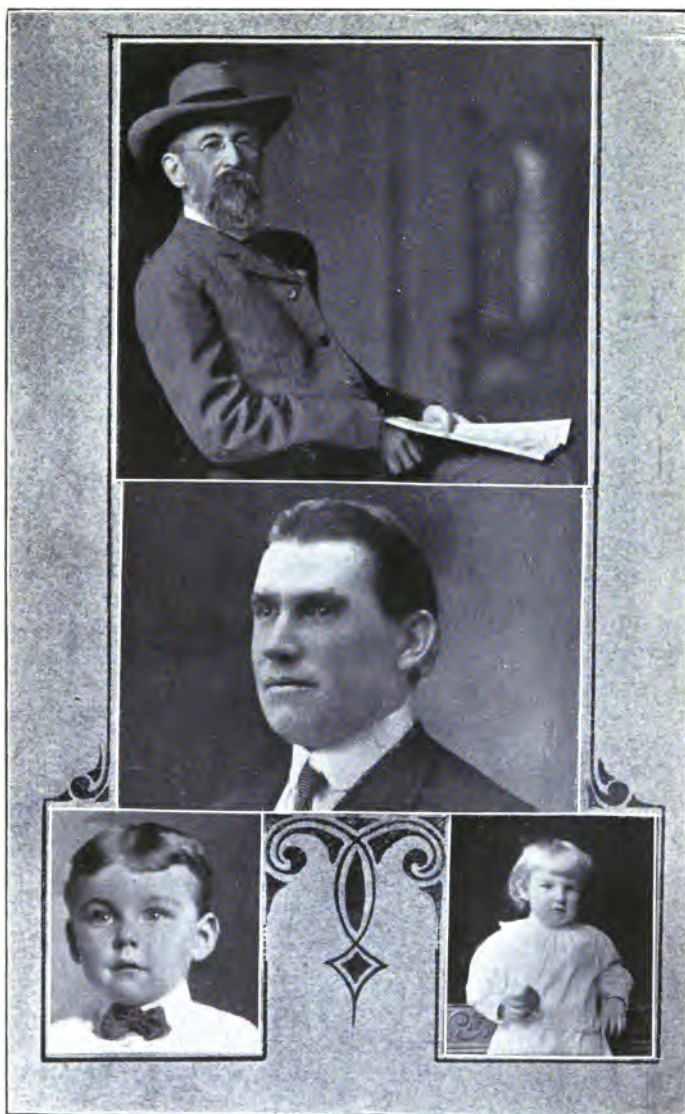
The new paper was in size eight columns and four pages, and found its first home in the two story frame building 1010 Third avenue, the press and engine in the cellar, the office and job room in the first story and the composing room in the second story. The large press was operated by hand for a while, a strong colored man furnishing the motive power, but later an upright steam engine was introduced.

The editor's first article of any length, was the editorial salutatory, which was as follows: "The line of policy we have marked out, and the work we have in view, embrace first a good, reliable and energetic local paper for the valley; not for New Brighton alone but for the entire Beaver valley. We propose to devote just as much time and attention to Beaver Falls, Rochester and the other towns of the valley, as we shall to the town in which the paper is published. Second, to present in every way possible, the facilities of the valley for manufacturing purposes, and to urge our claims upon all who may be seeking a safe place for the investment of their means in industries that will develop and make use of our resources and advantages. Third, To do our utmost in making a paper that will be fit to enter the families of our people, and if it does not instruct will not corrupt. Nothing base or low in its tone will be permitted to enter its columns. In regard to our position on the local and public questions of the day, so far as we may deem it our duty to discuss them, we have only to say that our columns will reflect the opinions of the signers hereto. We cannot be neutral on any question, but will be independent on all. In politics we are Republican. But in saying this we wish it distinctly understood, that we will be the organ of no clique or ring. We shall be in

the fullest and freest sense of the term, independent Republican in principle. If we do not like the actions of our own party, we claim, and will exercise, the right of saying so."

Francis Smith Reader was born in Coal Centre, Washington county, Pa., November 17, 1842, and was the descendant of a prominent line of pioneers in that county. Of his maternal ancestors, Hugh Scott came from the North of Ireland to the eastern part of Pennsylvania in 1670; the Agnews came the same time, who traced their lineage to the Norman invaders of England, through residents of Scotland and north of Ireland, and intermarried with the Scotts. Rev. John Smith, who married Annie Agnew great grand-daughter of Hugh Scott, was sent as a missionary to Pennsylvania in 1771 by the Associate Presbytery of Stirling Scotland, and was pastor of the Associate Church in Canonsburg, Washington county, Pa., in 1795. The Wallaces came from Renfrewshire Scotland to Somerset county, Md., about 1685, descendants of Sir Malcolm Wallace the Knight of Elderslie; and William Wallace of the fourth generation of this family in this country, came from Maryland to Somerset township, Washington county, Pa., with his bride in 1779. He was a Revolutionary soldier, serving in the Flying Camp of Maryland in 1776-7, and in the Rangers of the Frontiers in Washington county, Pa., after settling there. Martha, daughter of William Wallace, and James Agnew son of Rev. John Smith, were united in marriage, and their daughter, Eleanor Bentley Smith, was married to Francis Reader, whose parents came from Honily, near Stratford-on-Avon, in Warwickshire England, to Washington county, Pa., in 1805, and they were the parents of the editor. He was a Union soldier in the Civil War, enlisting April 27, 1861; was mustered in as a member of Company I, Second Virginia Infantry, which was changed in name to the Fifth West

Virginia Cavalry in July 1863, and he was mustered out of service August 8, 1864; he was captured June 20, 1864, put in prison at Lynchburg, Va., and while on the way to Andersonville, with three comrades jumped from the train about twenty miles south of Burkesville Junction July 19, and after ten days and nights of suffering and hunger, walking in the night, and hiding during the day, reached General Meade's headquarters at Petersburg, Va., July 30, 1864, passing through the right wing of General Robert E. Lee's grand Confederate army. He entered the Civil Service July 1865, where he served ten years; was educated in the common schools and Mount Union College Ohio; entered the ministry of the M. E. Church March 1868, but was compelled to abandon it on account of failure of voice; was a member of the M. E. Church nearly thirty-nine years; official member thirty-five years, Sunday School superintendent twenty-seven years, and united with the Presbyterian Church October 1904; is president of the American Porcelain Company New Brighton, Pa.; served in the school board and council of the borough, and as member and secretary of the Republican County Committee; he is a member of the American Historical Association, the Historical Society of Washington county, Pa., the Grand Army of the Republic, and of the Pennsylvania Society Sons of the American Revolution, both of his sons being members of the latter. He prepared and had presented to the Legislature, a bill governing the primary elections of the Republican party of Beaver county, which was enacted into a law in 1881, the first primary law in the State. In 1872, he wrote a series of twenty-five articles on the Beaver Valley for the Pittsburgh "Gazette," and a history of the Harmony Society at Economy, Pa., for the Pittsburgh "Christian Advocate;" for his paper a history of his escape from Confederate prison and other articles on the Civil War;



	F. S. READER	
DONALD	W. S. READER	ROBERT

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in 1876 he wrote a life of Moody and Sankey the noted Evangelists, being a close friend and associate of Mr. Sankey; in 1890 a history of his regiment, the Fifth West Virginia Cavalry; in 1899 a souvenir history of New Brighton, Pa.; in 1902 a family history entitled "Some Pioneers of Washington County, Pa." He was united in marriage December 24, 1867, to Miss Merran Darling, daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Darling New Brighton, both of New England ancestry, the former of Revolutionary ancestors, and they have two sons, Frank E. Reader attorney at law New Brighton, and Willard S. Reader associate editor of the "News."

The relation of partners existed between Major Critchlow and Mr. Reader until January 1, 1877. The paper had been enlarged to nine columns, was recognized by the Republican party, and was one of the official organs of the county.

In number 35 Vol. 3, January 1877, Major Critchlow announced his retirement from the paper in the following article: "With the present issue of the 'News' my connection with it terminates, as I have sold my entire interest to Mr. Reader. In parting I wish to congratulate the friends and readers of the 'News' on its assured success. It is just and proper to say, however, that to Mr. F. S. Reader who now assumes entire control, belongs the credit of whatever excellence there has been in the management of the columns. I wish to state here that the enterprise was begun with the view of Mr. Reader taking the whole pecuniary as well as literary management, as soon as circumstances would permit. That time having arrived, I ask all my personal friends to give Mr. Reader a cordial and hearty support pecuniarily, as well as to extend to him that sympathy to which he is entitled by his many excellent social and intellectual qualities. We are free to say that whoever

comes to know him as I know him, will find him just what I have always found him, a true man, and one that can be relied upon under all circumstances to do what is right. In such hands I predict for the 'News' and its editor a bright future."

In the same issue, Mr. Reader had the following editorial: "In assuming sole proprietorship of the 'News,' I shall not change it in its principles and general management. I desire to publish a paper that families will trustfully put upon their tables, and when boys and girls read its pages, will not have reason to fear contamination from it. Our experience proves that there is a place for the 'News.' It has been well patronized for the times, and I desire and ask a continuance of the same in the future. As in the past the paper will continue to advocate the claims of our county, and endeavor to advance its interests in every respect. Thanking my friends, and brethren of the press, for the kind treatment accorded me so far, I take my place with them, to aid in the development of our resources and advantages, and add my part in doing a little good as the years roll by."

The paper was started in the confusion and uncertainties of the panic of 1873, yet it made its way and paid all expenses, growing stronger every year. Having outgrown its quarters where first placed, it was moved in the autumn of 1878 to the old Shuster building, where the Beaver County Trust Co. building now stands. Here the "New Brighton Times" was published, a factory prospered at one time, and in the third story had been a hall in which meetings and societies were held. It was one of the landmarks of the town. It was remodeled to suit the business of the "News," occupying the spacious cellar and ground floor, the press and engine being in the cellar, and the composing and job room and editorial office on the ground floor.



The paper remained here until 1888, when in the spring of that year it was moved to the Opera Block, where it yet remains, the editor buying the corner half of that structure. It was changed to suit the business and most commodious quarters were thus secured.



OPERA BLOCK.

In the fierce political battles of 1877 to 1880, the "News" took a prominent part. At the primaries fraud had been charged and a contest resulted, the "News" advocating the utmost exposure of the fraud, if any, and then took the position for a primary law, for the government of Republican primary elections in the county. In 1880 while the editor was Secretary of the Republican County Committee, a position he held for several years, he prepared a bill for such a law. While the move was made the butt of many jokes and taunts, with derisive laughter from the Democrats, the committee endorsed the movement, and the bill was passed by the Legislature and became a law in 1881.

Not satisfied with presenting the local news to the people once a week, Mr. Reader determined to launch a daily edition if the people were ready for it. In

December 1882, he published a daily as a holiday edition, which was filled with local news, and it made quite a hit, many kind things being said of it.

Believing the time ripe for a daily paper, he began its publication in regular form, dating from February 5, 1883, the first daily paper ever published in the county. It was a five column eight page paper, with four pages ready print, published every evening except Sunday, for eight cents a week. Soon after it was changed to four pages and the price increased to ten cents.

In the first issue, the editor delivered himself as follows: "The 'Daily News' is before you. Is it welcome? It has come to stay if you want it; if you do not it will bow itself gracefully from your presence, and promise never to do so again. We are in for it now, and propose to do plenty of hard, earnest work to make it such a paper as you want, and we hope for success. We haven't time just now to brag what a good paper it is going to be; we will have to wait a while, and perhaps by that time its readers will have a decided opinion of their own on that point. We do not start the paper to fill any want, air any opinions, or anything of that kind, but it is simply and singly a business enterprise. Please do not regard it as anything else, and then you won't be disappointed. The editor is a Republican, but he is not going to run a political machine; he is going to make every effort to get all the local news of the Beaver valley, and to advocate with all his ability everything and anything that will benefit our towns, and make them more prosperous, and the inhabitants thereof prouder of the fair heritage they are permitted to enjoy."

On the 28th of September 1892, Willard S. Reader became a partner in the paper, being his 21st birthday, and became city editor of the paper, and soon most of the work of selecting matter for the paper, and passing



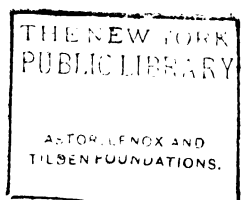
O. H. MATTHEWS

E. T. CORBUS

MAJOR DAVID CRITCHLOW

C. F. WHISLER

A. W. WHISLER



on its merits, fell upon him, the New Brighton news of which he gathered and wrote. He was born at New Brighton, Pa., September 28, 1871, attended the public school and Geneva College Beaver Falls, Pa., entered the office of the "News" as apprentice in 1886, and became reporter in 1888, and wrote for some of the Pittsburg papers; was Secretary of the Board of Health for some time; one of the directors of the American Porcelain Co. two years; but retired from all outside work to give his undivided attention to the management of the news columns of the paper. He was united in marriage with Lily D. Robinson March 1, 1897, and they have two children, Willard Donald and Robert Wallace, and are members of the Methodist Protestant Church.

On the morning of February 26, 1899, the large block in which the "News" had its home, was almost wholly destroyed by fire, and the printing plant was wrecked. The same day a paper was issued, and arrangements were made with the "Beaver Falls Review" for a home, until



NEWS BUILDING DECORATED IN HONOR OF THE RETURN OF  
THE 10TH PA. REGIMENT FROM THE PHILIPPINES.

a new one could be built. A contract was made for rebuilding, and the corner was covered by a two story structure, into which the "News" moved April 21, 1899, two months after being burned out, the offices being erected specially for the business. An entire new plant was purchased, and the daily routine went on unchanged, not an issue of the paper being omitted. In January 1901, a Mergenthaler Linotype was installed, the first one in the county.

Among the improvements advocated by the "News," were free bridges connecting the towns of the valley; consolidation of the towns into a city; improvement of the waterways; street railway lines; ship canal; improvement of streets and everything that tended to the comfort and convenience of the people, and aid them in securing a livelihood.

It was always for purity in politics, hence advocated the popular vote system, placing of primary elections under the general election laws, and the abolition of the use of money improperly, or any other means that caused corruption. It has always been on the side of temperance, and advocated a prohibition amendment to the State Constitution in the campaign of 1889. It refuses the use of its columns to advertisements of liquor, or anything of that nature, and takes a stand for all that will keep pure the reading of the people and help in bettering their condition.

The paper always advocated a square deal to every one, and never wilfully did any person a wrong. If at any time injustice was done to any one in its columns, it was prompt to correct it and set the matter right, and needed no law for such a purpose. In the long career of the paper it never had a libel suit. In a few cases, less than half a dozen, it was threatened with prosecution, but no attempt was made to carry the threats into execution. Its fairness was generally recognized; and

aggrieved and indignant persons, usually sought the editor or reporters, and settled all questions as gentlemen should, by being fair and honest, and by the paper having the courage and honor to retract any unjust things appearing in its columns.

The first foreman in the composing room of the Weekly "News" was the veteran printer, Samuel K. Alexander, who was assisted by his son William, with D. F. Daniels apprentice. Before the latter completed his trade, Mr. Alexander retired, and Mr. Daniels had charge of the office until John Tallon of Beaver, was appointed foreman.

The latter learned his trade in the "Argus" office in Beaver, in the history of which a notice is given of him leaving his case to respond to the call of the President for volunteers in 1862. He was the son of Robert and Eliza Tallon of Beaver, the former a native of Ireland, whose parents came to this country in 1824, and the latter was a daughter of Stacy Daniels, one of the early settlers of the county. In addition to his duties as foreman, Mr. Tallon sometimes went through the country on business for the paper. He died in a few years after becoming foreman, when D. F. Daniels was appointed foreman. Previous to this Edward Critchlow, son of Major Critchlow the manager of the paper, became an apprentice, and for a short time attended to the job work. William Alexander soon left the paper, and the Dorseys, father and son, held cases for a while.

D. F. Daniels was born in 1854 in North Sewickley township, Beaver county, Pa.; was married to Miss Clara Mellon October 16, 1879, and has one son Charles M. Daniels. He united with the First Baptist Church New Brighton, when 16 years of age, and was a worker in the church ever after and is a member of Social Lodge, Knights of Pythias, New Brighton. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Y. M. C. A. for a number

of years and its secretary, and was president and secretary of council, and signed \$25,000 worth of bonds to pay for the paving of Broadway, now Third avenue. He had charge of the circulation of the "Daily News" in New Brighton from January 1, 1887, and was business manager of the paper in 1881 and 1882, while the editor was absent from the office during the day. In 1900 Mr. Daniels resigned as foreman to go to California, on account of his health, and is now foreman of the "Upland News," Upland, California. He was foreman for some time of both the newspaper and job office of the "News," and no more capable foreman has been in charge of any office in the county. He was a master printer indeed, and knew all the ins and outs of the business, and his removal was regretted by all connected with the office.

In the fall of 1877 Frank W. Tallon of Beaver, was employed as a printer in the office and remained until April 1882, when he was appointed a clerk in the Custom House at Pittsburg, and returned to the Daily "News" office in 1888. On the retirement of Mr. Daniels, he became foreman July 1900, a most competent successor, fully qualified for the position. He is the son of Robert and Eliza Tallon and was born in Beaver in 1856. After leaving the public schools, he attended Beaver College for three years. January 1, 1870, he entered upon his apprenticeship in the "Radical" office Beaver. He served his time there, and then worked on the "Star" and the "Times" Beaver, and the "Chronicle" Washington, D. C., after which he came to the "News" office. He is a member of the M. E. Church, uniting with it at the age of ten years. He was married to Miss Lily Biddell of New Brighton, June 7, 1897.

Mr. Tallon is assisted by Harry E. Disbrow, in setting up advertisements and making up forms. He is the son of Edmond Disbrow, a veteran of the Civil War, who married a sister of Mr. Tallon.



When Mr. Daniels was foreman of the job office, he was assisted by Al. Krepps, an excellent printer, who left the office some time after. The work of both offices entailing too much attention, Mr. Daniels recommended William J. Keyser for foreman of the job office. Mr. Keyser was born February 1, 1863, at Allegheny City, Pa.; son of William M. and Elizabeth Y. Keyser. When quite young moved to Richmond, Ind., with his parents, where they remained for several years, and again returned to Allegheny; came to New Brighton, Pa., in 1870, attended the public schools here until 1878, when he entered job printing establishment of John Sargeant Hoopes and learned the printing trade. In 1881 went to the gold regions of the Real Del Castillo and Villa Graua Mining Co., near San Rafael, Lower California, where his father was engaged as a mining engineer. After remaining there a few months he returned to New Brighton and took his old position with the Hoopes establishment, remaining there until the firm quit business in 1884, when he entered the employ of the "News;" remained with the "News" until 1895, when on account of ill health he resigned his position and removed with his family to Cleveland, O., and engaged in the confectionery business. This business not being a success, he again returned to his trade, accepting a position with the firm of S. P. Mount & Co., job printers, being foreman of the job printing department. He remained there until 1899, when he resigned his position, and moved to Pittsburg, Pa., where he was connected with the printing firm of Wm. G. Johnston & Co., printers and stationers. He continued with this firm until July 1, 1900, when he was appointed to, and entered the United States Postal Service as a letter carrier, which position he holds at the present time. Mr. Keyser was a charter member of New Brighton Circle, No. 42, Protected Home Circle, charter member of Beaver Valley Typographical Union 250, and

is a Past Chancellor of Social Lodge, No. 351, Knights of Pythias, of New Brighton. Besides this he has been a member of Pittsburg Typographical Union No. 7, Cleveland Typographical Union No. 53, Woodland Circle No. 85, P. H. C., of Cleveland; Homewood Circle No. 119, P. H. C., of Pittsburg; and is a member of the National Letter Carriers' Association of the United States of America. On February 3, 1884, he was married at New Brighton to Miss Matilda V. Linder. This union was blessed with two children, Miss Hazel Dell Keyser, born July 3, 1886, at New Brighton, Pa., who is now employed in the offices of Drs. C. F. and W. S. Bingaman, Smith Block, Pittsburg, and Willa Colette Keyser, born December 10, 1897, at Cleveland, O., who died in infancy. Mr. Keyser is a nephew of United States Senator John Hipple Mitchell of Portland, Oregon, and is a full cousin of the Duchess de la Rochefecauld, (nee Miss Mattie Mitchell), of Paris France.

He was succeeded by George E. Evans, who in turn was followed by W. J. Bishop.

In April 1899, when the new office was fitted up after the fire, Orvis F. Johndrew was appointed foreman, and held the position until December 31, 1904, when he resigned to accept the position of foreman of the composing room of the "Beaver Falls Tribune," and was succeeded by Clarence C. Close, the present efficient head of that department.

Clarence C. Close was born July 10, 1866, in Chariton, Iowa; started to learn the printing business when 15 years of age with the "Beaver Times," and has continued at the trade in various capacities since that time.

Among the other well known printers who have worked on the paper, are John Lemmon; W. V. Winans now in business at Brownsville, Pa.; D. R. Johnson who went to the Government printing office and later to

Florida and engaged in business; L. S. Amberson now in business at Covington, Ky.; Hugh Sutherland job printer, Rochester, Pa.; Harry Patton, Jack Fry, Frank Anderson printers, Beaver; John White for years prominent as a printer, reporter and for some time a partner in the "Beaver Star," now deceased; James L. Dederick printer and pressman; Harry Palmer printer, reporter and manager of advertising, now of California; L. K. Prince and I. N. Jones printers, Youngstown, O.; Fred Shook Linotype operator; Charles Evans, Charles McKnight, Fred McClure and Adam Huth printers; W. S. Fulkman printer and reporter, now in Columbus, Ohio. To these should be added a number of the Knights of the road, who dropped in for a day or longer, whose names were seldom ever known.

Hugh A. Sutherland was born in Brighton township, Beaver county, Pa., September 24, 1852. In the year 1869 he entered the office of the "Beaver Argus" as an apprentice, under John B. Butler foreman. At the end of his term, he went to Mercer, Pa., where he filled his first position as a journeyman, and from there he went to Pittsburg, thence to Olean, N. Y. From the latter place he went to Meadville and worked on the "Crawford Journal" for one year, and then returned to Beaver county and worked on nearly all the papers. He accepted a position in the "Beaver Valley News" office New Brighton, in 1883, and solicited advertisements in the lower valley towns for the starting of the "Daily News," and reported and worked on the "Daily News" for about one year. In the fall of 1886 he bought the job printing office of M. D. Barnes Rochester, and has conducted it ever since in a successful and satisfactory manner.

The apprentices on the paper were D. F. Daniels; Ed. Critchlow who engaged in other business; Joseph Speer later a prominent Presbyterian minister of Wheeling,

W. Va., and a man of rare good qualities and ability; Elmer King, George E. Evans, Theo. C. Deitrick reporter, Charles Binzley wholesale grocer, Joseph Bliss reporter New Brighton, Lester McClain printer, Charles McKnight printer, W. B. Ramsey reporter, Frank Evans deceased, Charles Evans printer, Fred Shook Linotype operator, Robert Beacom druggist Allegheny, Pa., Lawrence Degraw, Harry E. Disbrow, Joseph Maroney now in a job office in Pittsburg, Elmer Rosenbauer, Gus Wells and Ralph Correll.

Among the writers on the paper, have been a number of able men and bright wits. In the early life of the paper, Hon. John Allison Register of the Treasury under President Grant, contributed a number of financial articles from Washington, and some editorials along the same line, which were read with interest, and were of a high order of ability.

Prof. A. R. Whitehill of Beaver Falls, now a professor in the University of West Virginia, wrote a series of articles descriptive of a trip to Europe. Other men prominent in local affairs were frequent contributors. John M. Critchlow, son of the Major, now a prominent minister in the Free Methodist Church, was with the paper for some months as gatherer of news and collector, and assisted in the office.

O. H. Mathews of Beaver Falls, who came on the paper as reporter and printer, was the first reporter on the paper. He wrote Beaver Falls locals in the morning and set them in type during the day. He was born December 2, 1842, near Harmony, Butler county, Pa., of Scotch-Irish ancestry. He attended the public schools until he was 14 years old, when he went on the "Butler American" to learn the trade of printing, where he remained until the outbreak of the Civil War, when he enlisted in Col. Rowley's 13th Pennsylvania Volunteers, was mustered in April 25, 1861, served until August 6,



D. F. DANIELS  
W. J. KEYSER  
G. H. CORRELL

F. W. TALLON  
C. C. CLOSE  
H. E. DISBROW

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1861, re-enlisted August 20, 1861, participating in all the battles of the Peninsula, of Maryland 1862, recrossed to Virginia November 3, 1863, served faithfully and with great gallantry, returning to Butler at the close of the war. He left there in 1866, going to Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he worked on the "Herald" for a few months, and then joined a party and crossed the plains to Colorado, thence to Plattsmouth, Neb., where he was foreman on the "Herald," which he held for a year and then returned to Oskaloosa and again worked on the "Herald" until winter, when he went to Decatur, Ala., and founded the "Alabama Republican," which he sold in a short time and returned to Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he was married on the 14th of April 1868, to Miss Sarah C. Ferree. This union resulted in four children, Mrs. J. R. Meskimon of Sacaton, Ariz., Frank E. Mathews architect Rochester, Pa., Orin O. Mathews, who served in the Spanish-American War, later a clerk in the freight department of the P. & L. E. R. R., and Charles H. Mathews, in architectural department of the same road. After his marriage he returned to the Plattsmouth "Herald" until 1870, thence went to Ashland, Neb., and founded the "Ashland Times" where he remained until his health failed in 1871, when he disposed of the paper and returned to Oskaloosa and in March 1872 removed to Des Moines, Ia., and became foreman of the Des Moines Auxiliary Printing Co., where he remained four years, then accepted a position in the A. N. Kellogg Printing office, Cleveland, O. Private business bringing him to Western Pennsylvania he located in Beaver Falls and began reporting for the "Beaver Falls Courier." About six months later, he accepted a position on the "News," which he filled until 1885, when he was appointed Deputy Register and Recorder by W. H. Bricker which he held for two terms and in 1890 was elected to the office, which he filled for two terms. He is now president of the Rochester Planing Mill Co., Rochester, Pa.

Thomp Burton was engaged on the "Weekly News" for general work, for a short time.

W. F. Hanrahan who published the "Beaver Falls Independent" in 1882, was the first reporter on the "Daily News" in New Brighton, and was one of the brightest writers in the county. He was succeeded by W. S. Fulkman who had solicited subscribers for the Daily, and worked on the case, and was reporter for a short time. Harry Palmer followed him, who later gave all his time to reporting the lower towns and soliciting advertising. His successor was Mrs. Marion Williams news dealer, who reported a year or more, and was then compelled to relinquish it on account of her business requiring all her time. All of these reporters were quite satisfactory and the news columns were kept bright and covered the field. On the retirement of Mrs. Williams in 1888, Willard S. Reader was appointed reporter of New Brighton, which he has held ever since.

The Beaver Falls reporters after Mr. Mathews were, J. E. McClure one of the brightest local writers in the county, who remained with the "Daily News" until he went into the business for himself. He was reporter on the "Tribune," and for a number of years has represented the Beaver "Star" in that city. He was succeeded by William M. Benham now an attorney in Pittsburg; then George Stemmeler for a short time; L. L. Carson now a newspaper writer of Pittsburg; T. C. Deitrick and W. B. Ramsey two of the "News" apprentices, who served well.

The present reporter is Edward Townsend Corbus, son of John Corbus Beaver Falls, and grandson of the late Samuel Corbus and Dr. Isaac Winans of New Brighton. He was born in New Brighton March 26, 1877, and moved to Beaver Falls in 1881. He was educated in the public schools of Beaver Falls, and was graduated in the class of 1895. He attended Geneva College in the fall of



1895 and spring of 1896, and then went to work as solicitor for the "Beaver Falls Republican," of which William Kay was editor and Lee McFate manager, where he worked for one week, and then was put on the staff of the paper, where he remained until August 1896. On January 15, 1897, he accepted a position on the "Daily News" as Beaver Falls representative, doing the reporting and soliciting for the paper. He was married to Miss Clara M. Mulholland October 8, 1903.

The Rochester reporters were John White, the first on the "Daily News" there, Harry Palmer, Charles R. Frank of Monaca, who died in the work; Charles F. Whisler who died in 1893, then John White and T. C. Deitrick, and they in turn by A. W. Whisler the present representative of the paper in the lower towns.

Charles R. Frank was the son of George F. and Rosa Gates Frank, of Monaca, and was born at Wellsburg, W. Va., January 15, 1863. He was educated in the public schools at Monaca then Phillipsburg, and served an apprenticeship in marble cutting with his uncle E. R. Frank. He then became a reporter on the "Daily Argus," and in 1886 accepted the position of reporter on the "Daily News," which he held until his death, January 16, 1889. After his death he was succeeded for a few months by his widow, and after her by Hervey J. Taylor. Mr. Taylor looked after business interests in the district.

He was born in Beaver, Pa., March 17, 1866, the son of Rev. Dr. W. G. Taylor born 1820, and Charlotte T. Taylor born 1821. He was educated at Piersol's academy West Bridgewater, Pa., and was a carpenter by occupation. In 1890 while attending school, he reported for the "News," but relinquished it to study medicine, taking a course at the Western Pennsylvania Medical College at Pittsburg, but did not graduate, discontinuing his studies in 1894. He was married to Miss

Hester L. Potter July 19, 1894, and is now in the employ of the Beaver Valley Water Company.

Charles Frank Whisler was born February 25, 1854, the youngest son of John H. Whisler Sr., in his day a prominent boat builder of Bolesville this county. His mother's maiden name was Jackson, she being a near relative of General and President Andrew Jackson. On his father's side he was of German descent and on the mother's side Irish. Mr. Whisler was educated in the public schools of this county, in Beaver College and the Wooster University. On completing his school work, he taught school for some time and was recognized as a successful one. Early in life he developed a taste for newspaper work, his first assignment being on the Beaver "Argus." Later he was a part owner and editor of the Beaver "Star," and afterward was engaged on the "Tribune" and "Journal" Beaver Falls, but for several years prior to his death had worked continuously on the "News." In addition to his local newspaper writing, he was the Beaver county representative of the Pittsburg "Chronicle Telegraph," the Tri-State News Bureau and the "Philadelphia Press." He died November 6, 1893. The following was written of him by a contemporary at the time of his death: "Mr. Whisler was a clear, interesting writer and was always careful to be accurate. It was a rule of his life not to add color to an article at the sacrifice of truth. His ability won for him a position and name among the very front rank of newspaper writers. As a companion and friend, he was a prince of good fellows, of a jovial disposition, a ready conversationalist, and well informed, and his companionship was much sought for. He was always right on all moral subjects, and never tried to harmonize right and wrong. He possessed the moral and physical courage to do what he believed to be right, regardless of consequences. In his death the newspaper fraternity loses one of its most honored members."

Addison W. Whisler was the son of the late John H. and Agnes Jackson Whisler, and was born at the Whisler homestead at Bolesville October 31, 1842. He was educated in the public schools and engaged in merchandising in Rochester for several years in the early seventies. From 1877 to 1890 he resided at Yankton, S. D., during which time he engaged in steamboat work on the upper Missouri, and on the south branch of the Saskatchewan river in the British Northwest Territory. Later for several years he represented a Sioux City, Ia. manufacturing firm in the Pittsburg district. Since the spring of 1894, he has represented the "Daily News" continuously in the lower Beaver valley district, and in addition the Pittsburg Daily and Sunday "Press," and the Afternoon News Bureau.

After the installation of the Mergenthaler Linotype in the office in January 1901, Guy H. Correll of Canton, O., became the operator, and has remained in charge of it since, except for a few months he was in the South, when Fred Shook had charge. Mr. Correll was born in Abilene, Kansas, November 21, 1877. He began newspaper work by delivering papers. When 17 years of age his parents moved to Canton, Ohio, where he found employment as apprentice in the "Evening Repository," and was assistant machinist on the linotypes. He left there in January 1901 to accept the position of operator in the "News" office, on the first linotype set up in the county.

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### AMBRIDGE-ECONOMY CITIZEN.

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The "Ambridge-Economy Citizen" a weekly published every Friday, was started in July 1904, and is edited by P. A. Revere, Ambridge, Pa.

## SOME LAST WORDS.

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By virtue of his long service in the newspaper ranks, the longest now in the business in the county, and the longest in continuous service as editor on one paper ever in the county, the author may be presumed to know something of the character and work of the gentlemen with whom he has been associated, and it gives him pleasure to write favorably of the writers and printers of the county. His intercourse with his editorial brethren has been on the whole pleasant, and nothing has occurred to mar the friendship formed. He has had some lively tilts at times, and the Weyands, Rutan, Porter and Curtis, and some of the numerous editors on the "Star," have made him step lively to their editorial music, but as he had a paper of his own, the fun was not all on one side.

The reporters who prepare daily the local happenings for the readers, deserve the highest praise for their fidelity and correctness. Readers of papers usually judge them by the errors they make. It is so easy to criticise, that when a mistake of any kind happens, condemnation soon follows, and very often without any effort to understand the circumstances, or ascertain the cause. The facts used are gathered from people who know them, or are supposed to know them, to be true. The reporter meets Mr. Jenkins, whom he knows to be a man of absolute truthfulness and honor, who tells him of

a happening that will enrich the columns of the paper. The information is used, and next day a patron advises the reporter that it was an error. Further investigation shows that Mr. Jenkins had misunderstood the facts, and the reporter and his paper are blamed for being inaccurate. The lack of time prevents the verification from original sources of every item of news, and when it is given by such a man as Jenkins, no attempt is made usually to investigate further. As a rule, no reporter in a county like this one, deliberately distorts facts or attempts to do injustice to any one. The contrary is the rule. He often smoothes the rough corners off many an item, or suppresses something that has happened, that if published would cause a mother's heart to ache, or array neighbor against neighbor, or cause confusion in society. For work of this kind, and for the hundreds of helpful and good things that are published, credit is seldom given.

For the articles that appear for the benefit of the people in church work, in societies, in business, and furthering the interests of the community, but little commendation is ever heard. The truth would be subserved, the columns of the papers made more reliable and valuable, and less complaint caused, if people would be frank with the reporters and give the precise facts. Everything that happens gets to some one's ears, and soon the gossips have it magnified beyond all recognition, while if the facts were given to the papers, the people would know the truth, and gossip would lose its power for evil. When a newspaper publishes an article that does injustice to any one, it is almost an invariable rule, to correct the error as soon as acquainted with the facts. In the hurry of preparing perhaps hundreds of items in a day, the chances are that some errors will be made, and then it is the part of wisdom for the aggrieved person not to make the air blue with condemning the paper, but go to the editor or reporter, and it will be set right.

Among all skilled mechanics, there are none that surpass the printers in intelligence, in skill and good citizenship. There are among them men who are real artists in putting in type the advertisements that appear, and in job work. In the very nature of their work they are possessed of literary culture and ability. They are self respecting citizens, whose influence is generally for good and the right.

In his newspaper career of thirty-one years, the writer has found his associates in the press, on the whole, to be among our best citizens, intelligent and active, and "jolly good fellows" every one of them, who have done a good work and served the people honestly and faithfully; and he has found the work itself to be of the highest possible good for the people. It is not always attended with financial results such as would follow from the same amount of work in some other lines; but if the editor is honest with the people, faithful and true in recording events, and true to the best principles that should govern men, he will not fail in a fair reward for his time and labor.

**ERRATA:**

Page 168 line 7, Robert Beacom, druggist, Allegheny, Pa., should be clerk, Beaver Falls, Pa.

In list of illustrations, the name of W. B. Lemmon, should be omitted.

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